

## MILITARY

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# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## FLYING INTO ACTION

US brings advanced F-35B stealth fighters to Philippines' Balikatan exercise for 1st time

Sailors man the rails aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp as it arrives in Subic Bay, Philippines, on Saturday in support of Balikatan 2019.

DANIEL BARKER/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy



By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

The United States and the Philippines have kicked off Balikatan 2019, an annual military exercise involving thousands of troops and, for the first time, advanced F-35B Lightning II stealth fighters training in the Southeast Asian nation.

The drills, which are to include 4,000 Filipino, 3,500 American and 50 Australian troops, began Monday with a ceremony at Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City and will run until April 12, according to local news reports.

During Balikatan, U.S. and Philippine forces will conduct amphibious operations, live-fire training, urban operations, aviation operations and counterterrorism response on the islands of Luzon and Palawan,

the Defense Department said in a news release.

"Balikatan focuses on maritime security and amphibious capabilities, as well as multinational interoperability through military exchanges," it said.

The F-35B is the Marine Corps' short-takeoff, vertical-landing version of the joint strike fighter, designed for air support of Marines on the ground.

SEE EXERCISE ON PAGE 3

## Army OKs masks for soldiers in uniform when air quality is poor in S. Korea

By KIM GAMEL  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — U.S. Forces Korea has changed its policy to allow soldiers and other troops to wear filtering masks while in uniform as protection against poor air quality in South Korea.

Army regulations had barred soldiers

from wearing the masks, which cover noses and mouths, in uniform unless they had a certified medical condition that merited an exception. By contrast, the Air Force permitted masks when pollution hit a certain level.

The new policy, posted Monday, says all servicemembers may wear approved masks while outdoors in uniform when the

air-quality index is reported as orange or higher, referring to a color scheme showing pollution levels.

The change comes as people in South Korea have endured record levels of fine dust that has smothered the country and prompted rising worries in the military community as soldiers spend a lot of time training and working outdoors.

Stars and Stripes first reported about the concerns early last month as South Korea was blanketed in record levels of fine dust for days.

More than 3,400 people signed a petition posted on Change.org last month calling for USFK, the main command in South Korea, to allow the use of masks.

SEE MASKS ON PAGE 3

MILITARY

# Troops trolled on April Fools' Day over beards, pets

By JAMES BOLINGER  
Stars and Stripes

For a brief period of suspended disbelief Monday, the Air Force authorized beards for its airmen and the Marine Corps approved barracks pets for members of the III Marine Expeditionary Force.

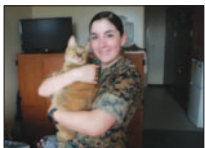
But the joke was on the airmen who tossed their razors or Marines who beelined to the animal shelter. They'd been trolled on April Fools' Day.

The Facebook post about beards by Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, had attracted more than 1,400 shares and comments as of Monday afternoon. It was also shared by the popular Air Force [amnnco/snco](#) Facebook account.

The post featured a bearded man wearing a camouflage uniform beneath a headline claiming the Air Force had authorized beards, a topic that airmen regularly ask the service to review.

The same day, the Defense Visual Information Service Distribution website, a source of official news from the military, released a statement from the III Marine Expeditionary Force in Okinawa, Japan.

"III MEF Allows Pets in Barracks" announced that a new Marine Corps order allows Marines



Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

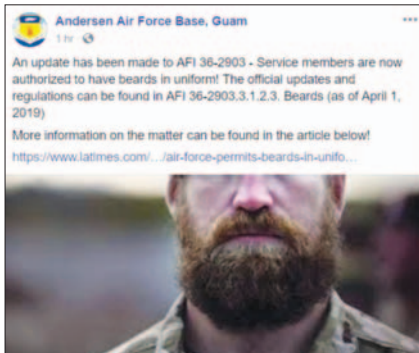
**An April Fools' Day prank by the III Marine Expeditionary Force announced that Marines living in the barracks will be allowed to keep one pet.**

living in the barracks to keep one pet if they submit a package to their chain of command and complete a class, Pet Care and Training 100.1.

A photograph accompanying the announcement showed a lance corporal holding a short-haired orange cat in her barracks room.

The story continued that all pets would be required to wear a reflective belt outside their residences to ensure their "safety and protection," be fitted with a microchip and obtain a photo ID to be carried by the owner.

The announcement listed acceptable pets: dogs, cats, fish smaller than 6 inches, hedge-



Courtesy of Facebook

**The April Fools' Day Facebook post by Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, announced that the service had authorized airmen to grow beards.**

hogs and bearded dragons, as long as they "maintain grooming standards." Rodents and rabbits would not be permitted under any circumstance, according to the report.

The article concluded: "Happy April Fools' Day, III MEF!" III MEF spokesman Lt. David Mancilla said there's a purpose behind such pranks.

"April Fools' Day allows III Marine Expeditionary Force the opportunity to build camaraderie and foster esprit de corps within our ranks, as well as highlight that the most lethal and ready military force in the Indo-Pacific region can have a sense of humor," he told Stars and Stripes in an email Monday.

Military-sanctioned April Fools' jokes have become a tradition on social media. Last year, U.S. Forces Japan tweeted a story

about a cat named Muffins, pictured in a tactical camouflage harness like that of a military working dog.

The meme claimed that Muffins was one of 10 "Military Working Cats" that made it to the final phase of training in a prototype program and was on its way to a military installation to begin a service career.

Military April Fools' pranks have been documented back to at least 1915 when a French pilot dropped a bomb-shaped object onto a German encampment. The German forces scattered, but after the lack of an explosion discovered the object was a football with a note reading, "April Fool," according to the Museum of Hoaxes website.

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## Naval Academy police chief facing probe

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — The police chief at the U.S. Naval Academy is under investigation following a complaint about sexual harassment.

Navy officials issued a statement to news outlets Friday saying that Lance Royce, the police chief for Naval Support Activity Annapolis, is under investigation but remains on duty.

The statement said the Navy "takes all allegations of sexual harassment seriously" but it offers no details about the complaint. A call Sunday to Royce's office was not immediately returned.

The primary mission for Royce's office is providing security for the academy.

## Senator urges protection of drone training base

PHOENIX — Sen. Martha McSally is urging the U.S. Army to keep protecting Fort Huachuca's role in southeast Arizona as an important training site for drones.

McSally's office in Arizona said the Republican lawmaker on Tuesday stressed to the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services in Washington the importance of the base and its training ground for unmanned aircraft.

Her office said Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley responded that Fort Huachuca is at "the top of the list" of sites being considered for larger drone training operations.

The senator was a combat pilot in the U.S. Air Force and rose to the rank of colonel before retiring.

The base is next to the town of Sierra Vista, about 15 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border.

From The Associated Press

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# PCSing? STARS AND STRIPES RELOCATION GUIDE

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## MILITARY



BENJAMIN F. DAVELLA III/ Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Sailors aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp on Saturday prepare to man the rails prior to arriving at Subic Bay, Philippines, in preparation of the 2019

## Exercise: US, Philippine military exercises will help allies prepare for joint operations

### FROM FRONT PAGE

The Japan-based amphibious assault ship USS Wasp with F-35Bs and Marines on board from Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force 4—led by the 4th Marine Regiment—arrived Saturday in Subic Bay, the news release said.

“We are excited to visit the Philippines for the first time since Wasp was forward deployed to 7th Fleet,” the ship’s commander, Capt. Colby Howard said in the news release.

“Balikatan is a great opportunity for the Navy-Marine Corps team and our allies from the Republic of the Philippines to learn from one another, and further improve our ability to operate together,” he added.

Personnel from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations will observe this year’s exercise, the news release said.

Australian Special Forces, medical, engineering and chaplaincy personnel will join the drills, the Australian Defense Force said in a statement.

“The exercise allows us to build our relationship with the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the United States Indo-Pacific Command,” the Australian chief of joint operations, Air Marshal Mel Hupfeld, said in the statement.

“Through this partnership, we aim to increase our ability to coordinate a multilateral response to a disaster or humanitarian crisis in a complex and ever-evolving regional security environment,” he said.

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# 2 Marine pilots killed in Arizona helicopter crash

Associated Press

YUMA, Ariz. — Two Marine pilots died in a helicopter crash during a training mission in southwestern Arizona, U.S. Marine Corps officials said Sunday.

The AH-1Z Viper crashed Saturday night while the pilots were conducting a training mission as part of a weapons and tactical instructor course, according to the Marine Corps.

The cause of the crash is under investigation.

Capt. Gabriel Adibe, a Marine Corps spokesman, said the helicopter crashed on the vast Marine Corps Air Station Yuma training grounds but no additional information was immediately available.

The names of the pilots who died have not been released pending notification of their families.

The station is located about 2 miles from Yuma, and the 1,300-square-mile training ground is one of the world’s largest military installations.

There have been several fatal crashes involving Marine Corps

aircraft near Yuma over the years.

In 1996, a Marine electronic-warfare plane went down during a training mission on a gunnery range near the Gila Mountains, about 40 miles east of the Yuma station, killing all four people aboard.

The crew was from the Marine base at Cherry Point, N.C., and was training at Yuma.

Two Marine pilots, a crew chief and a Navy corpsman died in a 2007 crash of a search and rescue helicopter near the Colorado River during a training mission. The crewmembers were attached to a headquarters squadron of Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma.

In 2012, seven Marines were killed when an AH-1W Super Cobra attack helicopter and a UH-1Y Huey utility helicopter collided in midair during a training exercise in a remote area of the Yuma training grounds. The crash site was in the Chocolate Mountains on the California side of the range.

## Masks: Authorization reflects concerns over threat posed by air pollution

### FROM FRONT PAGE

“From 2015-17, air pollution levels near U.S. bases in (South Korea) exceeded U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards for poor air quality approximately 100 days each year,” according to the policy.

The problem is heightened in the winter and early spring due primarily to a pollutant known as PM 2.5, fine particulate matter that can clog lungs and cause several health problems.

“Military personnel are authorized to wear an approved particulate filtering disposable mask while outdoors in uniform when the AQI is reported as Orange (101-150) or higher for PM,” the policy said.

It said masks worn with uniforms must have filtration ratings of N-95 or higher,

which means they may be effective at blocking up to 95 percent of fine particulates, as determined by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.

Troops should also modify outdoor activity when the air quality hits dangerous levels, it said, adding that indoor use of the masks was not authorized.

South Korea has the worst air quality among a group of 35 wealthy nations, according to the most recent data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

USFK also revised its policy two years ago to give commanders at each level more latitude to move training indoors or postpone activities based on air quality. Masks were not allowed at that time, and many said that outdoor training and other activities continued regardless of air-quality

index levels.

The Air Force, meanwhile, has been more lenient thanks to a policy put in place in June 2017 by the 51st Fighter Wing at Osan Air Base, south of Seoul.

Bases also keep the communities informed with updates on Facebook and internal alert systems.

Air pollution is linked to health problems ranging from eye irritation to upper respiratory symptoms in the short term and chronic respiratory diseases like asthma in the long term. Children and the elderly are considered particularly vulnerable.

South Korea has long suffered from a phenomenon known locally as “yellow dust,” which refers to contaminated fine sand particles that blow from the desert regions of China and Mongolia.

But the South, which has morphed into

an economic powerhouse after rapid industrialization following the devastation of the 1950-53 Korean War, also generates its own pollution, and most of its population of some 25 million lives in urban areas.

“There is a confluence of factors that lead to high levels of particulate matter in Korea,” said James Crawford, a NASA scientist who led a joint Korea-U.S. air quality field study in 2016.

“In public discourse, it is often attributed to transport from China without much further thought,” he said in an email. “While I do not discount that transport contributes, local emissions also play a bigger role when conditions are cold and ventilation of pollutants is inhibited.”

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## Police raid Wiesbaden club popular among some US servicemembers

By MARCUS KLOECKNER

Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany

— German police have raided a nightclub frequented by U.S. servicemembers in Wiesbaden, officials said Monday.

One hundred policemen participated in the raid Friday night on

the Euro Palace club in the city’s Mainz-Kastel neighborhood, Wiesbaden police spokeswoman Michaela Plock said.

More than 180 offenses have been reported at the club in the past 15 months, she said.

About 350 patrons of the “largest dance club in the Rhein-Main area,” according to the club’s web-

site, were individually searched by the officers during the raid. Three people were arrested.

U.S. military police stood by in case the Wiesbaden police needed assistance with American guests, Plock said. But no Americans present were arrested during the raid, she said.

Army officials could not im-

mediately comment Monday on whether the dance club will be placed on the off-limits list for U.S. servicemembers.

Last year, the U.S. Army decided the Euro Palace off limits for one weekend while German authorities investigated a threat that was posted on Facebook, the Allgemeine Zeitung newspaper

reported. In 2004, a U.S. Army private was found guilty of aggravated assault for stabbing to death an Italian citizen at the club.

A shuttle service organizes regular transportation to the club from several locations, including Kaiserslautern, Baumholder and Ramstein.

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## MILITARY

# Crews will survey land for a border wall

By ROSE L. THAYER  
Stars and Stripes

Surveyors from the Army Corps of Engineers will spend the next week assessing sites near Yuma, Ariz., and El Paso, Texas, where construction of a border wall is projected to begin as early as next month, a defense official confirmed Friday.

The teams arrived Thursday following the transfer of funds to the corps to begin work, said Army Lt. Col. Jamie Davis, Pentagon spokesman.

The Defense Department announced March 25 that acting Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan authorized \$1 billion to the Army Corps of Engineers to begin planning and executing 57 miles of 18-foot-high fencing. The authorization also includes constructing and improving roads and installing lighting.

At the request of the Department of Homeland Security, the work will occur within the Yuma and El Paso sectors of the border according to a news release about Shanahan's authorization. The El Paso sector includes the two most western counties in Texas and all of New Mexico, based on Customs and Border Patrol's website. Yuma includes the western portion of Arizona and Blythe Station in California.

Combined, the sectors include 394 miles of the border.

Following the assessment, the corps of engineers will bid out the

construction of the wall, Davis said. Army engineers will not build it. He said he estimates the Army will award a contract by the end of April and construction could begin shortly thereafter.

The construction of the wall is in support of a national emergency declaration President Donald Trump issued Feb. 15 in response to a high number of Central American families seeking asylum at the U.S. border with Mexico.

Recently, the number of families has peaked in El Paso, with Border Patrol temporarily reassigning 750 of its agents to the area.

The 3,100 active-duty troops at the border also are repositioning to meet the demand for support to harden ports of entry in Texas and New Mexico not previously requested, said Col. Cathy Wilkinson, spokeswoman for U.S. Army North, a headquarters helping oversee operations at the border.

Shanahan approved that request, and troops are providing temporary vehicle barriers, fencing and concertina wire at ports of entry designated by Border Patrol in El Paso and Laredo field office areas. That work is expected to finish in a few weeks, she said.

A military crisis response force also will remain at the southern border through the end of September, when the current mission is scheduled to end.



AMBER I. SMITH/Courtesy of the Defense Department

Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick M. Shanahan, far right, along with military and Homeland Security officials visit the U.S. southern border during a trip to El Paso, Texas, on Feb. 23. Army Corps of Engineers surveyors are set to assess sites along the border for wall construction.

About 1,400 servicemembers are positioned in Texas, about 1,100 in Arizona and about 600 in California, Wilkinson said.

Since troops deployed in October, the mission has included placing concertina wire barriers at ports of entry and between them. After laying 180 miles of wire, military engineers completed the job last week, Wilkinson said.

Troops most recently placed barriers in Naco, Douglas, Nogales, Sasabe, Lukeville and Yuma in Arizona and in Calexico and San Diego in California. Wilkinson noted that 180 miles is the amount of wire placed, not the amount of land covered because some areas have multiple layers of wire strands.

Units assigned to the wire mission "are repositioning, and in

a few cases redeploying, as we move forces to new locations in Texas for the new port-hardening mission," in Texas and New Mexico, Wilkinson said.

About 2,000 National Guard members also are serving along the border on a separate support mission with Border Patrol.

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# White House doubles down on threat to close the border

By DAVID J. LYNCH,  
MARIA SACCHETTI  
AND JOEL ACHENBACH  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The White House doubled down Sunday on President Donald Trump's threat to close the U.S. border with Mexico despite warnings that the move would inflict immediate economic damage on American consumers and businesses while doing little to stem a tide of migrants clamoring to enter the United States.

Sealing the border with Mexico, America's third-largest trading partner, would disrupt supply chains for major U.S. automakers, trigger swift price increases for grocery shoppers and invite lawsuits against the federal government, according to trade specialists and business executives.

"First, you'd see prices rise incredibly fast. Then ... we would see layoffs within a day or two," said Linda Jungmeyer, president of the Fresh Produce Association of the Americas in Nogales, Ariz. "This is not going to help border security."

Two of the president's most senior aides defended the move on the Sunday news shows. Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney said on ABC News' "This Week" that it would take

**"If you want to create an economic crisis, then shutting down the border will create an economic crisis."**

Gerry Schwebel

executive vice president of the international division of Laredo-based IBC Bank

"something dramatic" to persuade the president to abandon his border-closing plans. Presidential adviser Kellyanne Conway said on "Fox News Sunday" that the president's threat "certainly isn't a bluff."

Trump sparked the latest immigration-related controversy Friday when he complained to reporters about what he portrayed as Mexico's failure to stem the migrant influx, a point he underscored in a tweet the next day.

"If they don't stop them, we are closing the border. We'll close it. And we'll keep it closed for a long time. I'm not playing games," Trump said Friday.

Administration officials have offered no details about the president's intentions, and border control officials have received no instructions to prepare for a shutdown, according to a U.S. Customs and Border Protection official who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the

issue. Implementing such an order, the official said, would require time to notify Congress and labor unions representing Border Patrol agents and customs officers.

A Pentagon spokesman said the military, which has about 5,300 troops in the border region, has not received such orders.

Mexican officials have tried to avoid inflaming the situation, offering no public comment since Friday, when President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said: "We are going to help, to collaborate. We want to have a good relationship with the government of the United States. We are not going to argue about these issues."

Closing the border could complicate efforts to secure congressional ratification of Trump's new trade deal with Mexico and Canada, said economist Phil Levy, who worked on trade issues in the White House under President George W. Bush and is now a se-

nior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs.

The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement faces an uphill battle in Congress.

The U.S.-Mexico border is a key artery in the global economy, with more than \$611 billion in cross-border trade last year, according to the Commerce Department. Each day, more than 1,000 trucks cross the border at the port of Calexico East, Calif., while more than 11 daily international trains go through Laredo, Texas, according to the Transportation Department.

In Laredo, business leaders and elected officials held frantic conference calls over the weekend about the threatened closure. Gerry Schwebel, executive vice president of the international division of Laredo-based IBC Bank, said U.S.-Mexico traffic has occasionally been restricted, but only temporarily and only in the event of emergencies, such as floods, tornadoes or security checks after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Even a border slowdown could create shortages of goods and services and lead to higher prices for consumers, he said, adding: "If you want to create an economic crisis, then shutting down the border will create an economic crisis."

The economic consequences of a complete shutdown would be immediate and severe, trade specialists said, with automakers and American farmers among the first to feel the pain.

Arturo Sarukhan, Mexico's ambassador to the U.S. from 2007 to 2013, said farm states, many of which backed Trump in 2016, would be among the casualties. Closing the border would be a "self-inflicted wound," he said.

"I'm not going to try to second-guess whether the president is playing chicken, bluffing or spewing whatever comes to his mind," Sarukhan said Sunday. "The reality is that it would be extremely costly for the United States in terms of trade and economic well-being."

Stephen Legomsky, professor emeritus at the Washington University law school and former chief counsel of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, said closing the ports would probably end up in court because it would violate federal immigration laws.

Closing the border is also unlikely to stop the influx of asylum-seekers, he said.

"If anything, closing the authorized points would just drive more traffic between the ports of entry where people can enter illegally," he said.



## VETERANS



Courtesy of Kamigori Town Hall

Jitsuo Matsue prays over a flag carried by his father, Hisao Matsue, during World War II after it was returned to his family at the town hall in Kamigori, Japan, on March 17.

## Navy veteran's family returns Japanese flag

BY HANA KUSUMOTO  
AND SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

**TOKYO** — A lost Japanese World War II flag is finally home after a search sparked by the family of the Navy pilot who brought it back from the Philippines in 1945.

The red and white flag was returned March 17 to relatives of Japanese sailor Hisao Matsue, who died at age 36 on the Philippine island of Luzon in 1945.

It was discovered in 2013 among possessions left by former Navy Cmdr. Clarence Miller, of Moline, Ill., who died in 1984 at age 77.

His family decided to look for its original owner after reading a story about the return of another WWII-era Japanese flag, Miller's granddaughter Amy said in an email Friday.

In recent years, a number of veterans' families have returned Japanese flags that were taken as war trophies during WWII.

Such flags were often signed by Japanese servicemembers' families, neighbors, schoolmates and co-workers wishing for good fortune in war. The warriors would then fold the flag and carry it into battle.

"He never talked about the war, so we don't know exactly where

we got it, but he was a pilot and picked up and transported U.S. military, so we assume he was given it by a friend," Miller said of her grandfather.

The Japan War Bereaved Family Association and one of Miller's former Japanese co-workers, Shingo Takashima, helped identify Matsue as the flag's owner based on names written on it in kanji script.

The association tracked down Matsue's son, Jitsuo, in the town of Kamigori in Hyogo prefecture, said Takashima, who attended the return ceremony.

"We were so relieved to finally have an answer, that there was living family we could return it to and glad that they were happy to have it back," Miller said.

Jitsuo Matsue's only memory of his father is telling him not to go when he left for the war, daughter Hitomi Takahashi said in a phone interview.

"We thought he was happy since his shoulder was shaking when he saw the flag," she said of her father during the ceremony. "He had nothing that belonged to his father. This is the only relic. For him, his father had finally returned."

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## Exchange stores worldwide recognize Vietnam veterans

BY CHRISTIAN LOPEZ  
Stars and Stripes

**YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan** — Nearly 44 years after the last U.S. action of the Vietnam War, veterans of the era celebrated their service at exchanges around the globe, including at the home of the Navy's 7th Fleet.

The event brought Mike Williams, a retired Marine Corps colonel, close to tears.

"To me in particular — like most Vietnam veterans — I remember coming home and it wasn't the best welcome in the world," he said Friday. "But to be recognized specifically after all these years is greatly appreciated."

The Navy Exchange Service Command and Defense Commissary Agency on Friday welcomed veterans and their families at appreciation events to recognize Vietnam veterans on their day.

President Donald Trump in 2017 signed into law the act designating March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. The date is significant as the day in 1973 when the United States deactivated its Military Assistance Command Vietnam, according to a commemoration day website.

The Defense Department considers anyone who served during the 20 years between November 1955 and May 1975 as a Vietnam veteran, whether they served in the country or not.

"All were called to serve and none could self-determine where they would serve," according to the commemoration website.

At Yokosuka, the exchange hosted an appreciation luncheon, where a cake was cut with a Mameluk sword and special lapel pins were handed out to participating veterans. The distinctive blade is carried by Marine Corps officers.

"It's important that we recognize all veterans, especially Vietnam veterans," said Sherrill Wines, event coordinator for Yokosuka's exchange.



CHRISTIAN LOPEZ/Stars and Stripes

Veterans use a ceremonial sword to cut a cake on National Vietnam War Veterans Day at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, on Friday.

**'I remember coming home and it wasn't the best welcome in the world. To be recognized specifically after all these years is greatly appreciated.'**

Mike Williams  
retired Marine Corps colonel

Williams shared a story of a close call during one of his last missions as a helicopter pilot flying support missions in Vietnam. The North Vietnamese army had surrounded a South Vietnamese ranger battalion, and five times had shot down South Vietnamese aircraft attempting to evacuate their wounded.

"Wegot asked to do it, so we went in with a UH-1 utility helicopter from a different company and four Cobra attack helicopters," he said. "I watched my friend, Roger Nelson, enter the landing zone that was covered by a forest of explosions from NVA artillery and thought to myself he was never coming back."

"Next thing I know, he comes back out with 15 other people, greatly overloading his Huey," Williams said. "With two Cobras on each side of his helicopter, we managed to clear a path and get everyone out safely."

The Senate approved a measure last summer allowing more veterans to shop at on-base stores. Legislation that was part of the \$716 billion National Defense Authorization Act granted eligibility to all Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war and veterans with disabilities connected to their military service, as well as veteran caregivers.

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## 2 US veterans facing trial after peace protest in Ireland

BY JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

Two US veterans-turned-peace activists are awaiting trial in Ireland on charges of trespassing in connection with allegations they approached what they believed to be a marked U.S. military transport at the Shannon Airport.

Kenneth "Ken" Mayers, 82, of Santa Fe, N.M., and Tarak Kauff, 77, of Woodstock, N.Y., were released from Limerick Prison on Friday after spending 13 days behind bars, the Santa Fe News Mexican reported.

The men were taken into custody on St. Patrick's Day.

The Irish Times reported that the two breached security in an effort to reach an aircraft they believed was used to transport U.S. troops. The men did not reach the aircraft and were detained by authorities.

The incident occurred during a protest over the use of Shannon Airport as a refueling stop for U.S. military flights.

Mayers, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who served in the 1960s, is now a member of Veterans for Peace. Kauff joined the Army in 1959 and served for about three years, according to news reports.

The website, stopthesewars.

org, which is focused on the plight of the two Americans, said the men were involved in a peaceful protest.

"The two walked across the air field with the intent of inspecting the plane for weapons or munitions, but were apprehended by airport security," the website reported.

The veterans were carrying a large banner that read: "U.S. Veterans Say Respect Irish Neutrality. U.S. War Machine Out of Shannon Airport. Veterans For Peace."

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ELLEN DAVIDSON/Creative Commons

U.S. Veterans for Peace activists Kenneth Mayers, second from left, and Tarak Kauff, third from left, leave their March 18 arraignment in Ennis, Ireland.

## WAR/MILITARY

# NATO to spend \$260M on facility in Poland

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

NATO has agreed to invest \$260 million to fund a military storage site in central Poland in support of U.S. forces that operate in the region, the alliance's top official said Monday.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg announced the new measure one day ahead of a meeting Tuesday in Washington with President Donald Trump, who has called on allies to invest more in military matters.

"This will fund storage and maintenance of pre-positioned military equipment—which will speed up reinforcement for Europe," Stoltenberg said during a news conference at NATO's Brussels headquarters.

NATO said construction on the site near Poznań, Poland, will begin this summer

and is expected to take about two years to complete.

The project is part of about \$2.3 billion in NATO funding for various military mobility initiatives that have taken place over the past four years. Speeding the military's ability to mobilize large numbers of troops, particularly along NATO's eastern border with Russia, has been a key focus for the alliance.

This week, NATO members will gather in Washington to mark the alliance's 70th anniversary. Stoltenberg is set to address both houses of Congress on Wednesday and will officiate a meeting of alliance defense ministers.

During that meeting, Stoltenberg said he expects allies to agree to expand their presence in the Black Sea in response to concerns about Russian aggression.

New measures will focus on improving NATO's "situational awareness" in the region

and stepping up support for Ukraine and Georgia — two non-NATO countries that have been involved in conflicts with Russia. Areas of support include "training of maritime forces and coast guards, port visits and exercises, and sharing of information," Stoltenberg said.

The Black Sea has emerged as a flashpoint with Russia, which seized three Ukrainian ships during a standoff with Ukraine last year. Stoltenberg did not elaborate on which ports allied ships would visit as part of its planned increased Black Sea presence or say whether Ukrainian sites were among the places that would be visited. Three Black Sea nations — Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey — are NATO members.

"NATO has already stepped up its presence in the Black Sea. And we continue to work closely with our partners in the region," he said.

In 2018, NATO ships spent 120 days in the Black Sea, up from about 80 in 2017, he said.

Meanwhile, Stoltenberg said defense spending — Trump's top NATO priority — would again be on the agenda in Washington.

Since 2016, European allies and Canada have added \$41 billion to their defense budgets. "By the end of next year, this will rise to \$100 billion," Stoltenberg said.

Still, Germany is not on track to meet NATO defense spending guidelines by 2024, which is when all members are expected to spend 2 percent of economic output on defense.

"I expect Germany to make good on their pledge together with all other NATO allies," Stoltenberg said.

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## With training, navies sought to make trade safe in Africa

By LEKAN OYEKANMI  
AND CARLEY PETESCH  
Associated Press

LAGOS, Nigeria — The United States Navy and 33 other countries recently carried out weeks of maritime training in the Gulf of Guinea to improve safety against pirates and to improve the monitoring of the West Africa coastline.

The Obangame Express training exercise, in its ninth year, this year included 2,500 personnel, 95 ships and 12 aircraft, with the participation of countries in West Africa, Europe and North America.

"In West Africa the Gulf of Guinea is crucial to economic development because economic prosperity is tied to the maritime domain," said Adm. James G. Foggo III, commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa and commander, Allied Joint Force Command Naples.

"This requires that the maritime countries of this region have strong, professional military and law enforcement institutions that can provide the setting for maritime trade to flourish."

Currently the Gulf of Guinea "is vulnerable to illegal activities within territorial waters, all of which degrades the ability for regional and global trade to occur freely and benefit the region," said Foggo.

Not all countries have large ships, he said, so vessels are shared in the Gulf of Guinea.

Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas, Nigeria's chief of naval staff, said that countries



SUNDAY ALAMBIA/AP

Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas, right, Nigeria's chief of naval staff, shakes hands with Adm. James G. Foggo III, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa and commander, Allied Joint Force Command Naples, during the closing ceremony of the Obangame Express training exercise in Lagos, Nigeria, last month.

in the region are challenged to be aware of what needs to be done to protect their coastlines and sea areas.

There are "issues of the various navies not having adequate platform and not having adequate infrastructure to support even the operational fleet in terms of capacity to even deploy... We also have problems with language," he said, noting that English, French, Portuguese and Spanish

are all used in the region.

In the last six years, Nigeria has been able to buy more ships to improve its abilities at sea, he said, adding that more than 75 percent of attempted "mischiefs" at sea has been foiled in recent times, referring to piracy and the hijacking of vessels.

Training, logistics and government support will remain crucial in maintaining the security of the gulf, he said.

## Afghan officials: Taliban attacked at checkpoints

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Taliban stormed checkpoints in northern and western Afghanistan, killing at least eight members of the country's security forces and in one attack setting off an hours-long gunbattle, provincial officials said as a U.S. envoy arrived in Kabul on Monday to push for peace talks.

According to Zabihullah Amani, spokesman for the provincial governor in northern Sari Pul province, five security force members were killed in an attack there in Sozma Qala district that started late on Sunday night. The fighting lasted until Monday morning and also left two troops wounded.

The insurgents captured six soldiers before fleeing the scene and their fate remains unknown, Amani said. The checkpoints were later retaken and the area was brought under control with reinforcements.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but Amani blamed the Taliban.

Separately, the Taliban on Monday overran an army checkpoint in western Badkhis province, killing three soldiers, said Jamshid Shahabi, spokesman for the provincial governor. Four other soldiers were wounded and two were missing after the Taliban attack in the district of Bal Murgab.

Qari Yusof Ahmadi, a Taliban spokesman, claimed responsibility for the attack in Badkhis.

Meanwhile, U.S. peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad tweeted that he arrived in Kabul and met with Afghan government officials on Monday.



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## NATION

# Official: Trump team overruled denials of security clearances

By CHAD DAY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A career official in the White House security office says dozens of people in President Donald Trump's administration were granted security clearances despite "disqualifying issues" in their backgrounds, such as concerns about foreign influence, drug use and criminal conduct.

Tricia Newbold, an 18-year government employee who oversees the issuance of clearances for some senior White House aides, said she compiled a list of at least 25 officials who were initially denied security clearances last year because of their backgrounds. But she said senior Trump aides overturned those decisions, moves that she said weren't made "in the best interest of national security."

Newbold's allegations were detailed in a letter and memo released Monday by Rep. Elijah Cummings, of Maryland, chairman of the House Oversight and Reform committee. Cummings' panel has been investigating security clearances issued to senior officials including Trump son-in-law Jared Kushner, former na-

tional security adviser Michael Flynn, and former White House aide Rob Porter.

The documents don't identify the officials on Newbold's list but they note that two are "current senior White House officials."

The release of the information comes about a month after The New York Times reported that Trump ordered officials to grant Kushner a clearance over the objections of national security officials and after Newbold spoke out to NBC News and other news outlets about her concerns. It also sets the stage for another fight between the White House and the Democratic-controlled House. Cummings said he will move this week to authorize his first subpoena in the probe.

Cummings said the subpoena will be for the deposition of Carl Kline, who served as the White House personnel security director and supervised Newbold. He has since left the White House for the Defense Department.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday.

Rep. Jim Jordan, the committee's ranking Republican, said in a statement that Cummings' probe is a "partisan attack" and

an "excuse to go fishing" through personnel files. He also said that one person on Newbold's list is a GSA custodian.

Newbold laid out her experience in the White House during a March 23 interview with bipartisan committee staff. Portions of that interview were in the memo released by Cummings.

According to the memo, Newbold's list of overturned security clearance denials included "two current senior White House officials, as well as contractors and individuals throughout different components of the Executive Office of the President."

Newbold said she raised her concerns up the chain of command in the White House to no avail. Instead, she said, the White House retaliated, suspending her in January for 14 days without pay for not following a new policy requiring that documents be scanned as separate PDF files rather than one single PDF file.

Newbold said that when she returned to work in February, she was cut out of the security clearance process and removed from a supervisory responsibility.

The committee has previously singled out Flynn, Porter and Kushner as it sought records from



CURT OWEN/AP

**A White House official-turned-whistleblower says the White House overturned 25 security clearance denials.**

the White House about how their clearances were handled.

Flynn maintained his clearance even after the White House learned he lied to the FBI about his conversations with Russia's ambassador and that he was under federal investigation by the Justice Department for his previous foreign work.

Kushner failed to initially disclose numerous foreign meetings on security clearance forms, and,

according to the Times, career officials recommended against granting him clearance before Trump overruled them.

Porter had high-level access with an interim security clearance even though the FBI repeatedly told the White House of past allegations of domestic violence lodged against him by two ex-wives.

Porter resigned after the allegations becoming public.

## NY budget calls for new tolls, plastic bags ban

By CHRIS CAROLA  
AND DAVID KLEPPER

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — A statewide ban on plastic bags and groundbreaking tolls for motorists entering the busiest sections of Manhattan are coming to New York under a new state budget that takes several ambitious steps to address long-standing environmental and transportation challenges.

Lawmakers worked through the night Sunday to pass the \$175.5 billion spending plan. The Democrat-controlled Senate finished passing budget bills at 2:30 a.m. Monday, followed about five hours later by the Assembly, also controlled by Democrats.

Monday was the start of a new fiscal year and the date the budget is due.

The sprawling legislation contains myriad provisions guaranteed to affect residents and visitors in some way.

"This budget is probably the strongest progressive statement that we've made," Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo told reporters Sunday as lawmakers worked through hours of debate and voting on the budget.

One key detail will be resolved later: the amount of the new tolls

in Manhattan. Known as "congestion pricing," the first-in-the-nation tolls will be imposed starting in 2021 on vehicles traveling south of 61st Street as a way to discourage traffic and raise money for the city's ailing subways and regional commuter rail systems. Similar tolls are in place in cities including London, Singapore, Stockholm.

Calls for congestion tolls had been dismissed for years as a political long shot until Cuomo made it a priority this year, along with an accompanying overhaul of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the byzantine agency that oversees city transit.

The budget includes two other revenue sources for the subways: a "mansions tax" on Manhattan homes that sell for \$25 million or more and an internet sales tax levied on online retailers.

With the ban on plastic bags, New York will join California and Hawaii as the only states where the ubiquitous items are banned throughout the state. Taking effect March 1, 2020, the ban will apply to most single-use plastic bags provided by grocery stores and other retailers. Individual counties will have the option of charging 5 cents for paper bags, with 2 cents going to local governments and 3 cents to the state's



HANS PENNING/AP

**New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo speaks about the state budget during a news conference Sunday in Albany, N.Y.**

Environmental Protection Fund.

The budget will establish a new commission that will come up with a system for public financing of legislative and statewide offices, with up to \$100 million in taxpayer funds authorized annually for such a system.

Supporters of public financing say it would reduce the influence of money in politics.

The legalization of recreational marijuana was the most significant item left out of the spending blueprint. While Cuomo had initially pushed to include legalization in the budget, top lawmakers said there wasn't enough time to resolve complicated questions about regulations and taxation.

## House Judiciary panel to subpoena Mueller's report

By JOHN WAGNER

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The House Judiciary Committee plans to vote Wednesday to authorize subpoenas to obtain the full report of special counsel Robert Mueller, escalating a feud with the Justice Department over a lengthy document detailing findings about Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, on Monday announced plans for the panel's vote, which would take place a day after a deadline the committee set for Attorney General William P. Barr to share the report.

Barr pledged last week to release a redacted version by mid-April, well after Nadler's deadline.

"As I have made clear, Congress requires the full and complete Special Counsel report, without redactions, as well as access to the underlying evidence," Nadler said in a statement Monday in which he urged Barr to reconsider meeting his Tuesday deadline.

Barr informed Congress on March 24 of Mueller's main findings, writing in a four-page letter to the heads of the House and Sen-

ate Judiciary committees that the Mueller report did not establish a criminal conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia to sway the election and offered no conclusion on whether the president sought to obstruct justice during the investigation.

Absent a firm conclusion from Mueller, Barr, in consultation with Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein, determined there was insufficient evidence to establish obstruction, the summary said.

President Donald Trump has declared that the report amounted to "a complete and total exoneration" for him, while Democrats have started accusing Barr of angling to protect Trump, who appointed Barr to lead the Justice Department.

Nadler said Monday that his Democratic-led panel also plans to vote to authorize subpoenas for five former White House aides who might have received documents relevant to the special counsel's investigation: former White House counsel Donald McGahn; former chief strategist Stephen K. Bannon; former communications director Hope Hicks; former chief of staff Reince Priebus; and Ann Donaldson, McGahn's former chief of staff.



## NATION

# Jury selection begins in ex-officer's shooting trial

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Jury selection began Monday in the trial of a former Minneapolis police officer who fatally shot an unarmed Australian woman after she called 911 to report a possible sexual assault behind her home.

Mohamed Noor, 33, is charged in the July 2017 death of Justine Ruszczyk Damond in a case that drew international attention, cost the police chief her job and forced major revisions to the police department's policy on body cameras.

Prosecutors charged Noor with second-degree intentional murder, third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter, saying there is no evidence Noor faced a threat that justified deadly force.

They must prove he acted unreasonably when he shot Damond, 40, a life coach with both U.S. and Australian citizenship who was engaged to be married. Noor's attorneys plan to argue that he used reasonable force and acted in self-defense.

Noor has refused to talk to investigators, and his attorneys haven't said whether he will testify at his trial, which could last weeks. He did not respond to reporters' questions Monday as he and his attorneys arrived at the Hennepin County court-



AARON LAVINSKY, (MINNEAPOLIS) STAR TRIBUNE/AP

**Johanna Morrow plays the didgeridoo during a memorial service for Justine Ruszczyk Damond, who was fatally shot by a police officer, at Lake Harriet in Minneapolis in August 2017. Jury selection has begun in the trial of the former officer.**

house for the start of jury selection.

Potential jurors were expected to fill out forms in a half-day session.

Noor's partner that night, Officer Matthew Harriety, told investigators he was driving a police SUV when he heard a

voice and a thump and caught a glimpse of someone outside his window. Harriety said he was startled and thought his life was in danger. He said he then heard a noise and turned to see that Noor, in the passenger seat, had fired his gun past Harriety and hit

Damond through the driver's side window. The officers did not turn on their body cameras until after the shooting, and there was no squad car video.

The lack of video was widely criticized, and Damond's family called for changes, including when officers are required to turn on their cameras. Days later, the police department strengthened its policy to require that the cameras be activated immediately when responding to a call or making a traffic stop.

The shooting also raised questions about the training of Noor, a Somali-American whose arrival on the force about two years earlier had been celebrated by city leaders and Minnesota's large Somali community. Noor had previously worked in property management.

Then-Chief Janee Harteau defended Noor's training and said he was suited to be on the street. But Harteau was forced to resign by then-Mayor Betsy Hodges, who also lost her bid for re-election four months later in a vote influenced by police-community relations.

Documents later filed as part of the criminal case showed that training officers voiced concerns about Noor's fitness for duty long before he shot Damond, but he was deemed fit to serve.

## Police: 'Several' bodies found at business in North Dakota

By BLAKE NICHOLSON

Associated Press

MANDAN, N.D. — Police responding to a medical call at a North Dakota business on Monday found "several" bodies, authorities said.

The Mandan Police Department issued a three-sentence news release confirming that officers had found "several people who were deceased inside" the business in the city of about 22,000 just across the Missouri River west of Bismarck. Police did not say how many people were dead and did not immediately respond to a request for more details.

The state Bureau of Criminal Investigation said it was helping with the investigation but did not offer any details.

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier confirmed that the business was RJR Maintenance and Management, a property management company where police and sheriff's vehicles were clustered. The Bismarck Tribune reported that the business released a statement at 9:30 a.m. saying it was closed Monday.

No one answered the phone at the business, which is somewhat isolated despite its

location in a business district near a busy main road known as The Strip. A large empty lot sits in the front, a golf course in back and a soccer complex to one side.

Gina Kessel, 52, of Mandan, showed up at the business Monday to pick up her son, Mitchell Kessel, an employee there. She said Mitchell "called me, said something is going on."

She said he didn't tell her what.

The pair hugged, with both of them crying. Her son did not speak before going back behind a police line.

Darin Helbling, a manager at a nearby bowling alley, said police asked to see his business' surveillance video. Helbling said the video showed only a couple of vehicles on the road that separates the businesses since 10 p.m. Sunday.

RJR's website identified it as a family-owned company that has been handling commercial and residential properties in Bismarck and Mandan for more than 20 years. Its services include collecting rent for landlords, paying mortgages, re-renting apartments, building and grounds maintenance, lawn care and snow removal. It also rents out storage units.

## Flooding worries rise along Mississippi

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — A wall of rocks and sandbags is protecting scenic Clarksville, Mo., from the surging Mississippi River as spring flooding swamps fields, threatens homes and temporarily shuts down a bridge connecting Missouri and Illinois.

Heavy rain over much of the Midwest on Saturday caused another spike in water levels along the river and its tributaries, especially in Iowa, Missouri and Illinois.

Clarksville is a small village known for antique shops and artist galleries. It has no levee, so volunteers built a rock wall

topped with sandbags.

In nearby Louisiana, Mo., floodwaters near the bridge deck on the Illinois side forced closure of the Champ Clark Bridge Sunday night. By Monday morning, the river had crested, the deck was dry and the bridge reopened.

The route for Sunday's Go! St. Louis marathon and half-marathon was changed. The original finish line for the 15,000 expected runners was near the Gateway Arch. That road was covered in Mississippi River water, so the run ended in the downtown area.



AP

**A Southwest Airlines jet moves on the runway at LaGuardia Airport in New York in January. Multiple U.S. airports experienced delays after a technical glitch Monday.**

## Major US airlines hit by delays after technical glitch at vendor

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A technical glitch at an outside aviation company led to delays at major U.S. airlines Monday.

The issue has been resolved, but it may cause some travelers a disruption in plans. Delays that began appearing first in Chicago, New York, Miami and Boston spread to Dallas, Atlanta, Detroit and the District of Columbia.

The Federal Aviation Administration said the technical issue hit a number of airlines and advised travelers to contact airlines directly for flight information and updates. Airlines say travelers should check online for the latest updates on flights.

American Airlines said the technical issue was related to AeroData, a company that makes aircraft location and balance

ing technology. The glitch affected a few of American's regional carriers.

Southwest Airlines lifted an internal ground stop at 7:05 Eastern that had been implemented for about 40 minutes. The airline anticipates scattered delays.

Some United Airlines regional carriers were hampered by the issue, which resulted in delays for select United Express flights, the company said. About 150 flights were affected, according to United.

"Some flights that were affected have departed, and we're working to get all affected flights back on schedule," United said.

Delta said the outage prevented some of its Delta Connection flights from leaving on time. The airline doesn't anticipate flight cancellations.

## NATION

# Dems in dash for donors to make the debate stage

BY BILL BARROW,  
HUNTER WOODALL  
AND SARA BURNETT  
Associated Press

The fiercest battle for campaign cash is playing out between the presidential candidates who might not be on your radar.

Ahead of Sunday's fundraising deadline for the first quarter, the underdogs of the Democratic primary were in a mad dash to coax as little as \$2 from grassroots donors. It's all part of their bid to clear a new threshold from the Democratic National Committee to earn one of 20 highly coveted spots in presidential debates that begin in June.

"I'll be blunt," former Obama Cabinet member Julian Castro told prospective donors in one social media ad that was running as late as Thursday. "The Democratic Party's new debate rules mean I might not make it onto the debate stage."

New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand sent multiple fundraising emails pleading her case, telling recipients in that they could

chip in \$5 "to become a founding member" and "help get Kirsten on the debate stage."

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee urges donors in a Facebook ad to "chip in ... at any amount to make sure" his call to combat climate change "is on the stage in June."

John Delaney, a little-known former Maryland congressman, is going a step further. He promised to donate \$2 to charity for every new donor who donated on his website as Sunday's fundraising deadline approached.

At issue are the rules that DNC Chairman Tom Perez announced in February for the first two debates in June and July. The debates will take place over two back-to-back midweek evenings with 10 slots each night.

Candidates have two paths to the stage. They can either achieve 1 percent support in three reputable national or early nominating state polls or they can collect contributions from at least 65,000 donors, with a minimum of 200 in at least 20 states.

The amount raised doesn't matter. It's all about how many voters

are contributing.

It's not immediately clear how many candidates are short of the fundraising threshold and how many might be using the rules as a way to expand their fundraising base. That won't be known until mid-April when campaign finance disclosures are next due with the Federal Elections Commission.

Perez said he's not concerned, either way, arguing that he wanted to make the debate qualifications fairer by not relying only on polling. He also wanted to force candidates to "engage with the grassroots," those people who have provided Democrats with energy and votes since President Donald Trump's election in 2016.

"It's important to empower the grassroots," Perez said recently on C-SPAN, explaining that the DNC worked with ActBlue, the online fundraising juggernaut for Democrats, to come up with the threshold.

He characterized the requirements as "not a layup for any candidate but also not a full-court shot."



JULIUS CONSTANTINE MOTAL/AP

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., shown speaking in New York on March 24, and the other 2020 Democratic candidates are rushing to meet a fundraising goal to qualify for the presidential debates.

It actually might be a layup for a few candidates.

Sen. Bernie Sanders' campaign says he has more than 760,000 donors, another eye-popping mark after hauling in more than \$10 million in the first week after his official campaign launch. Former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke's campaign said he raised more than \$6.2 million in his first day, more than surpassing the individual donor requirements. California Sen. Kamala Harris raised more than \$4 million in her first day.

But Perez said his point stands, with rules that help candidates by relieving them of polling pres-

sure while still requiring them to show progress among voters.

Pete Buttigieg, the 37-year-old mayor of South Bend, Ind., said the rules forced him to tailor his fundraising efforts to the grassroots. He said he already has surpassed the requirements.

Delaney was less enthusiastic as he sought support in Epping, N.H.

"I think it's a weird standard because it's a money standard, and I don't think the Democratic Party should qualify candidates based on money," he told The Associated Press.



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## NATION

# Holocaust remnant arrives in NY for exhibit

German boxcar among artifacts being prepared for Auschwitz display

By VERENA DOBNIK  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — On a Sunday morning, a crane lowered a rusty remnant of the Holocaust onto tracks outside Manhattan's Museum of Jewish Heritage — a vintage German train car like those used to transport men, women and children to Auschwitz and other Nazi death camps.

The windowless boxcar is among 700 Holocaust artifacts, most never before seen in the United States, that are being prepared for one of the largest exhibits ever on Auschwitz — a once ordinary Polish town called Oswiecim that the Nazis occupied and transformed into a human monastery.

The New York exhibit opens May 8, the day in 1945 when Germany surrendered and the camps were liberated.

German-made freight wagons like the one in the exhibit were used to deport people from their homes all around Europe. About 1 million Jews — out of a total of 6 million who perished in the Holocaust — and nearly 100,000 others were gassed, shot, hanged or starved in Auschwitz.

That fate awaited them after a long ride on the kind of train car that's the centerpiece of the New York exhibit.

"There were 80 people squeezed into one wooden car, with no facilities, just a pail to urinate," recalled Ray Kaner, a 92, who still works as a Manhattan dental office manager. "You couldn't lie down, so you had to sleep sitting, and it smelled," she said.

She and her sister had been forced to board the train in August 1944 in occupied Poland after their parents died in the Lodz ghetto where Jews were held captive.

The Germans promised the sisters a better new life.

"We believed them, and we schlepped everything we could carry," she said. "We still had great hope."

Once in Auschwitz, "they took away whatever we carried," and prisoners were beaten, stripped naked and their heads shaved bald.

Titled "Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away," the upcoming exhibit will transport visitors into the grisly faceoff between perpetrators and victims.

On display will be concrete posts from an Auschwitz fence covered in barbed and electrified wires; a gas mask used by the SS; a desk belonging to Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Hoss; and a dagger and helmet used by Heinrich Himmler, the chief architect of Hitler's "Final solution."

The collection of prisoners' personal items includes a comb improvised from scrap metal; a trumpet one survivor used to save his life by entertaining his captors; and tickets for passage on the St. Louis, a ship of refugees whom the United States refused to accept, sending them back to Europe where some were killed by the Nazis.

The materials are on loan from about 20 institutions worldwide, plus private collections, curated by Robert Jan van Pelt, a leading Auschwitz authority, and other experts in conjunction with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Poland and Musealia, a Spanish company that organizes traveling shows.

The New York one will run through Jan. 3.

The 8-decade-old box car brought to New



RICHARD DREW/AP

Portraits of Holocaust survivors are displayed at the Museum of Jewish Heritage as a vintage German train car, like those used to transport people to Auschwitz and other death camps, is uncovered on tracks outside the museum in New York on Sunday. The train car joins hundreds of artifacts from Auschwitz at the museum for an exhibit titled "Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away."



RICHARD DREW/AP

Holocaust survivor Leon Kaner, 94, views the train car Sunday.

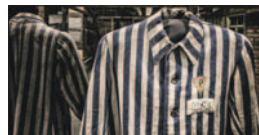
York on a cargo ship came from a German auction in terrible condition. Van Pelt's team bought it and restored it.

"The dark, smelly car represents that moment of transition from the world of the living that people understood and trusted to the radically alien world of the camps where the doors opened and families were separated forever," said van Pelt, whose relatives in Amsterdam lived down the street from Anne Frank's family.

"The Nazis wanted to wipe out every last Jew in the world," and at the end of a train trip, "this is where the last goodbyes were said."

The exhibit items all belonged to somebody — most now gone, either because they were murdered in camps or survived and have since died. Some people who inherited artifacts came forward with stories attached to them.

Thousands of survivors live in New York



In photos provided by Musealia Entertainment SL, a shirt worn by a political prisoner at the Auschwitz concentration camp is shown at top. At bottom is a barrack from Auschwitz II-Monowitz labor camp.

City, among the last who can offer personal testimony.

That's why the exhibit is important, said real estate developer Bruce Ratner, the chairman of the museum's board of trustees.

"While we had all hoped after the Holocaust that the international community would come together to stop genocide, mass murder and ethnic cleansing, these crimes continue and there are more refugees today than at any time since the Second World War," said Ratner.

"So my hope for this exhibit is that it motivates all of us to make the connections between the world of the past and the world of the present, and to take a firm stand against hate."

**"The Nazis wanted to wipe out every last Jew in the world ... this is where the last goodbyes were said."**

Robert Jan van Pelt  
a leading Auschwitz authority



## NATION

## Alabama presenting diversity at bicentennial

By JAY REEVES  
Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — In 1961, Alabama marked the 100th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War with white women dressed in hoop skirts parading through a coliseum and a reenactment of the inauguration of the Confederate president at the state Capitol.

The state's 2019 bicentennial celebration is very different, with a frank discussion of the horrors of slavery sharing space on a schedule with a Civil War reenactment promoted by a Confederate heritage group and scores of other events, many focused on civil rights.

The departure from years past is intentional, officials who helped plan the program say.

Although Alabama license plates still carry the words "Heart of Dixie" and the state has three holidays linked to the Confederacy, organizers say they wanted to present a balanced view of history for the bicentennial.

"The idea was that we want to celebrate the scope and range of Alabama history," said Ed Bridges, who directed the Alabama Department of Archives and History for more than three decades and now chairs an advisory committee overseeing the bicentennial. "The really big idea is to find ways to make Alabama better as we enter our third century."



JAY REEVES/AP

**A worker adjusts a banner celebrating Alabama's bicentennial outside the Department of Archives and History in Montgomery, Ala., on Feb. 28. The state is incorporating lessons on slavery into the event.**

Unlike other states that have marked bicentennials with year-long programs or single events, Alabama planners laid out a schedule of nearly three years' worth of events culminating with

a ceremony in Montgomery on Dec. 14 which will mark the 200th anniversary of the state's admission to the United States in 1819. As part of the program, more than 1,200 educators are getting

new materials and supplemental training for state history lessons.

Bertis English, who teaches history at historically black Alabama State University and participated in some of the early planning, said

the expanded schedule allowed more time to include diverse perspectives on the state's past.

"I am seeing a much more inclusive body of participants and events than I probably would have seen two or three decades ago," English said.

The result is a statewide program that includes everything from the state's pre-Colonial history to its role in developing the first moon rockets. Country music legend Hank Williams is being recognized; so is R&B singer Wilson Pickett.

Doris Cooper Anthony, 71, of Montgomery, attended a bicentennial program that coincided with Black History Month about the legacy of slavery at Alabama State in Montgomery and was pleased to see the state's warts being presented along with more positive aspects.

"It's not history unless you tell the whole thing. History has been fragmented selectively to paint a picture that is delusional really," said Anthony, who is black.

Martin Dulaney, a retired University of Texas historian who spoke at the event, said it's vital for any Southern state to present its full history, including the antebellum period, the Civil War and beyond.

"That Confederacy period is still part of that history. Criticize it and indeed tell the truth about it, that it's about slavery and not state's rights and so on," he said.

## No AI in humor: R2-D2 walks into a bar, doesn't get the joke

By SETH BORENSTEIN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A robot walks into a bar. It goes CLANG.

Alexa and Siri can tell jokes mined from a humor database, but they just don't get them.

Linguists and computer scientists say this is something to consider on April Fools' Day: Humor is what makes humans special. When people try to teach machines what's funny, the results are at times laughable but not quite in the way intended.

"Artificial intelligence will never get jokes like humans do," said Kiki Hempelmann, a computational linguist who studies humor at Texas A&M University-Commerce. "In themselves, they have no need for humor. They miss completely context."

And when it comes to humor, the people who study it — sometimes until all laughs are beaten out of it — say context is key. Even expert linguists have trouble explaining humor, said Tristan Miller, a computer scientist and linguist at Darmstadt University of Technology in Germany.

"Creative language — and humor in particular — is one of the hardest areas for computational intelligence to grasp," said Miller, who has analyzed more than 10,000 puns and called it

torture. "It's because it relies so much on real-world knowledge — background knowledge and commonsense knowledge. A computer doesn't have these real-world experiences to draw on. It only knows what you tell it and what it draws from."

Allison Bishop, a Columbia University computer scientist who also performs stand-up comedy, said computer learning looks for patterns, but comedy thrives on things hovering close to a pattern and veering off just a bit to be funny and edgy.

For comedians, that's job security. Bishop said her parents were happy when her brother became a full-time comedy writer because it meant he wouldn't be replaced by a machine.

Oregon State University computer scientist Heather Knight created the comedy-performing robot Ginger to help her design machines that better interact with — and especially respond to — humans. She said it turns out people most appreciate a robot's self-effacing humor.

Ginger, which uses human-written jokes and stories, does a bit about Shakespeare and machines, asking, "If you prick me in my battery pack, do I not bleed alkaline fluid?" in a reference to "The Merchant of Venice."

Humor and artificial intel-

ligence is a growing field for academics.

Some computers can generate and understand puns — the most basic humor — without help from humans because puns are based on different meanings of similar-sounding words. But they fall down after that, said Purdue University computer scientist Julia Rayz.

"They get them — sort of," Rayz said. "Even if we look at puns, most of the puns require huge amounts of background."

Still, with puns there is something mathematical that computers can grasp, Bishop said.

IBM has created artificial intelligence that beat opponents in chess and "Jeopardy!" Its latest attempt, Project Debater, is more difficult because it is based on language and aims to win structured arguments with people, said principal investigator Noam Slonim, a former comedy writer for an Israeli version of "Saturday Night Live."

Slonim put humor into the programming, figuring that an occasional one-liner could help in a debate. But it backfired during initial tests when the system made jokes at the wrong time or in the wrong way. Now, Project Debater is limited to one attempt at humor per debate, and that humor is often self-effacing.



ERIC RISBERG/AP

**Noam Slonim stands with the IBM Project Debater before a debate between the computer and two humans in San Francisco in June. Research in artificial intelligence is focusing on the ability of computers to get humor.**

"We know that humor — at least good humor — relies on nuance and on timing," Slonim said. "And these are very hard to decipher by an automatic system."

That's why humor may be key in future Turing Tests — the ultimate test of machine intelligence, which is to see if an independent evaluator can tell if it is interacting with a person or computer — Slonim said.

There are good reasons to have artificial intelligence try to learn to get humor, Darmstadt Univer-

sity's Miller said. It makes machines more relatable, especially if you can get them to understand sarcasm. That also may aid with automated translations of different languages, he said.

Texas A&M's Hempelmann isn't so sure that's a good idea.

"Teaching AI systems humor is dangerous because they may find it where it isn't and they may use it where it's inappropriate," Hempelmann said. "Maybe bad AI will start killing people because it thinks it is funny."

## WORLD



DAN BRAUN/AP

**Ukrainian comic actor Volodymyr Zelenskyy flashes the victory sign at the end of the presidential elections in Kiev on Sunday.**

# Actor leads presidential vote in Ukraine; runoff scheduled

By YURAS KARMANAU  
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — A comic actor with no political experience was leading strongly in Ukraine's presidential election and will be in a runoff for the job in three weeks, according to results released Monday. Ukraine's president was still trying to hold off a long-time rival to claim the other spot in the runoff.

With nearly 84 percent of the polling stations counted, Volodymyr Zelenskyy had 30 percent support in Sunday's vote, while President Petro Poroshenko was a distant second with about 16 percent.

Ex-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko trailed behind in third with 13 percent.

The strong showing for Zelenskyy, 41, reflects the public's longing for a fresh leader who has no links to Ukraine's corruption-ridden political elite and can offer

a new approach to settling the grinding five-year conflict with Russia-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine that has left 13,000 dead since 2014.



Poroshenko

"This is only the first step toward a great victory," Zelenskyy said.

The top two candidates advance to a runoff on April 21. Final results were expected later Monday.

Zelenskyy dismissed suggestions that he could pool forces with Tymoshenko to get her voters in the second round in exchange for forming a coalition later.

"We aren't making any deals with anyone," he said. "We are young people. We don't want to see all the past in our future."

Like the character he plays in a TV comedy show, a school-teacher-turned-president angry over corruption, Zelenskyy made fighting corruption a focus of his candidacy.

He proposed a lifetime ban on holding public office for anyone convicted of graft. He also called for direct negotiations with Russia on ending the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

The election was marred by allegations of widespread vote-buying. Police said they had received more than 2,100 complaints of violations on voting day alone, in addition to hundreds of earlier voting fraud claims, including bribery attempts and removing ballots from polling stations.

Zelenskyy's headquarters alleged multiple types of cheating on the part of Poroshenko's campaign, but election officials said the vote took place without significant violations.

## UK Parliament to try again on Brexit options

LONDON — Britain's Parliament gets another chance Monday to offer a way forward on Britain's stalled divorce from the European Union, holding a series of votes on Brexit alternatives in an attempt to find the elusive idea that can command a majority.

With just 12 days until the U.K. must come up with a new plan or crash out of the bloc, the House of Commons was considering a variety of alternatives to Prime Minister Theresa May's unpopular Brexit deal. Two ideas — staying in the EU customs union or holding a second referendum on Brexit — have emerged as the most likely plans to succeed.

May has ruled out both those ideas. But the divorce deal she negotiated with the EU has been rejected by Parliament three times, leaving Britain less than two weeks from a no-deal Brexit that could cause turmoil for people and businesses on both sides of the Channel.

## Era of next emperor in Japan to be 'Reiwa'

TOKYO — The era of Japan's next emperor, which begins May 1, will be named "Reiwa," connoting pursuit of harmony, the government said Monday after selecting the phrase from ancient Japanese poetry instead of Chinese classics, as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe promotes national pride.

The current "Heisei," or "achieving peace," era will end with Emperor Akihito's abdication on April 30. His son, Naruhito, is to ascend the throne the following day.

## New Zealand seeks to ban guns used in attack

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — New Zealand's government on Monday introduced a bill it plans to rush into law that would ban the types of weapons a gunman used to kill 50 people at two mosques.

Police Minister Stuart Nash said that if lawmakers pass the bill as expected, the new law will take effect April 12, less than a month after the March 15 attacks.

Plans for law changes were first announced by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern in the days after the attacks, when the government imposed an immediate ban on the sales of such weapons.

## China to regulate all fentanyl-related drugs

BEIJING — China said Monday it would begin regulating all fentanyl-related drugs as a class of controlled substances, in a change U.S. officials had long advocated as a way to stem the flow of lethal opioids from China.

The sweeping change in the way China regulates drugs that mimic fentanyl takes effect May 1 and could help end the game of regulatory whack-a-mole with chemists who can manufacture novel opioids faster than they can be banned.

From The Associated Press

# Erdogan loses ground in Turkey's big cities

By ZEYNEP BILGINSOY  
AND SUZAN FRASER  
Associated Press

ISTANBUL — Turkey's opposition dealt President Recep Tayyip Erdogan a symbolic blow by gaining ground in key cities in the country's local elections.

The opposition won the capital, Ankara, a ruling party stronghold for decades, and was leading a tight race for mayor in Istanbul, according to unofficial figures Monday. The leader who has dominated Turkish politics for 16 years declared victory despite the opposition's gains.

Sunday's local elections were widely seen as a gauge of support for Erdogan as the nation of 81 million faces a daunting economic recession with double-digit inflation, rising food prices and

high unemployment. It was also a first test for Erdogan — who has been accused of increasingly authoritarian tendencies — since stepping last year into a new presidential role with widely expanded powers.

Behlül Özkan, an associate professor at Marmara University, said Erdogan's loss of ground in Ankara and Istanbul indicated that his socially conservative and construction-driven policies no longer resonated in the cosmopolitan cities.

"Political Islam's quarter-century-old hegemony in Turkey's two largest cities is over," he said. "The basic problem is that Erdogan is not able to get votes from middle-income earners who believe that the economy, education and urban administration are not run well."



BURHAN OZBILIC/AP

**Supporters of Turkey's Republican People's Party wave Turkish flags as they celebrate after preliminary results of the local elections were announced in Ankara early Monday.**

More than 57 million people were eligible to vote for the mayors of 30 major cities, 51 provincial capitals and 922 districts in Turkey. The election was marred by sporadic violence, with five dead and scores injured across Turkey.

Even with 99 percent of the

votes counted, ballot counts were still underway Monday in the tight race for Istanbul, Turkey's largest city and commercial hub. Unofficial results reported by the state-run Anadolu news agency showed the opposition at 48.8 percent support to the ruling party's 48.5 percent.

# Hamas marks year of bloody protests amid violence

By KARIN LAUB  
AND FARES AKRAM  
Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Over the weekend, Gaza's Hamas rulers marked a year of bloody, weekly protests that have failed to break the Israeli blockade. Rocket attacks brought a wave of Israeli airstrikes, and unprecedented protests broke out against the Islamic militants' increasingly unpopular rule.

And yet, Hamas' control over

Gaza is tighter than ever.

The militants' rule has been strengthened by an unlikely overlap of interests with Israel's right-wing government. Neither wants to see an independent state established in all of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem as the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. And Hamas' refusal to give up power — the asking price of its West Bank-based Palestinian rival for reconciliation — aligns with Israel's long-standing policy of maintain-

ing a separation between the West Bank and Gaza.

So even though Israel and Hamas have fought three wars and dozens of skirmishes, and even though Hamas remains committed to Israel's eventual destruction, the two are once again meeting with Egyptian mediators and working to keep things quiet.

Under an emerging arrangement, Hamas would halt rocket fire and keep border protests peaceful in exchange for Israel easing its border blockade and

allowing \$30 million a month in Qatari aid into the territory. On Sunday, Israel reopened Gaza crossings to limited traffic.

Egypt has brokered short-lived deals in the past, and it is not clear if the current arrangements will last beyond Israel's April 9 election.

In a close race, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has come under fire for what his challengers say is a Gaza policy that exposes Israel to Hamas blackmail.

## WORLD



TSVANGIRAYI MUKWAZI/AP

A woman fetches water from an unprotected source Sunday in Beira, Mozambique, which has reported its first death from an outbreak of cholera following the devastation of Cyclone Idai.

## Mozambique reports 1st cholera death

By PINDAI DUBE  
Associated Press

BEIRA, Mozambique — Mozambique's cyclone-hit city of Beira has confirmed its first death from cholera as the number of cases of the disease has jumped to 517.

To control the outbreak, emergency clinics have been set up across Beira, a city of 500,000, said Mozambican national health director Ussene Isse, according to broadcaster TVM.

Cases of the acute diarrheal disease have risen dramatically since the first five cases were confirmed last week. Cyclone Idai severely damaged the water system for Beira, a city of 500,000, when it hit on March 14.

Some 900,000 cholera vaccine doses were set to arrive on Monday, according to the World

Health Organization.

Cholera is spread by contaminated water and food. It can kill within hours but is relatively easy to treat.

The overall cyclone death toll in Mozambique is now 518. With 259 deaths in Zimbabwe and 56 in Malawi, the three-nation death toll is more than 815.

Authorities warn the tolls are preliminary as floodwaters recede and reveal more bodies.

The Chinese government has sent doctors and emergency workers to fight the cholera outbreak in Beira, and Chinese aid workers sprayed anti-cholera disinfectant in parts of the port city.

The U.S. military joined the international humanitarian aid efforts to Mozambique by airlifting food and relief supplies from South Africa.

Beira's crowded, poor neigh-

borhoods are especially at risk. Doctors Without Borders has said it is seeing some 200 likely cholera cases per day in the city, where relief workers are hurrying to restore the damaged water system and bring in additional medical assistance.

Cholera is a major concern for the hundreds of thousands of cyclone survivors in the southern African nation now living in squalid conditions in camps, schools or damaged homes. Some drink from contaminated wells or filthy, stagnant water.

As health responders stress the need for better disease surveillance, the United Nations' deputy humanitarian coordinator in Mozambique, Sebastian Rhodes Stampa, has said all cases of diarrhea are being treated as though they are cholera.

## Charge is reduced for 2nd suspect in N. Korean's death

By EILEEN NG  
Associated Press

SHAH ALAM, Malaysia — Two years after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's half brother was killed, a Malaysian court on Monday told the only remaining suspect in custody that she would not face a murder charge, perhaps signaling the end of a case that had sparked international intrigue.

The move to reduce the charge against the Vietnamese woman, Doan Thi Huong, came three weeks after an even more stunning development in the case when prosecutors unexpectedly dropped the murder charge against Huong's Indonesian co-defendant and immediately freed her.

The two women had been the only suspects in custody after four North Korean suspects fled Malaysia following the killing of Kim Jong Nam in a Kuala Lumpur airport terminal on the morning of Feb. 13, 2017.

Oh Eui Sun, a senior fellow with the Singapore Institute of International Affairs, said the decision not to charge the two women with murder likely marked the end of the case.

"This is pretty much the end as the real culprits are apparently hiding behind the veil of diplomatic immunity and state-sponsored sanctuary," Oh said.

Huong and the Indonesian woman, Siti Aisyah, have said they thought they were partici-

pating in a prank for a TV show and did not know they actually had been taking part in a high-profile murder. The two were arrested and accused of smearing VX nerve agent on Kim's face.

Lawyers for the women have previously said they were pawns



Huong

in a political assassination with clear links to the North Korean Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, and that the prosecution failed to show the women had

any intention to kill. Intent to kill is crucial to a murder charge under Malaysian law.

Huong nodded Monday as a translator read the new charge to her: voluntarily causing injury with a dangerous weapon, VX nerve agent.

While Huong may not have had any premeditated intent to kill Kim, she did apply the VX on his face and has to account for it, Oh said.

High Court Judge Azmi Ariffin sentenced Huong to three years and four months in prison from the day she was arrested on Feb. 15, 2017. Huong's lawyer, Hysyam Teh Poh Teik, said his client is expected to be freed by the first week of May after a one-third reduction in her sentence for good behavior.

## Sri Lanka destroys drugs; will resume death penalty

By BHARATHA MALLAWARACHI  
Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Sri Lankan authorities publicly destroyed 1,695 pounds of cocaine on Monday as the president announced that dates have been set for the country's first executions in 43 years amid rising alarm over drug-related crime.

Authorities have intensified a crackdown on narcotics to deter smugglers from using the Indian Ocean island nation as a transit point for drug distribution in the region.

On Monday, police officers first liquified the cocaine, which was packed in more than two dozen bags at a warehouse outside the capital, Colombo. It was then taken to be disposed in a cement kiln.

The cocaine came from four seizures by police and custom officials in 2016 and 2017 and in

around Colombo.

President Maithripala Sirisena said the military and police will launch a "wide-ranging program" to curb drugs and would eradicate narcotics within two years.

"To curb the illegal drug menace, it is necessary to implement the death penalty," Sirisena said, adding that the suspension of capital punishment had led to an increase in crime and the spread of narcotics.

Rights groups and the European Union have criticized Sirisena's move.

Harm Reduction International, a drug policy research group, has said there is no evidence that executions deter drug use or trafficking.

Sri Lanka last executed a prisoner in 1976. Currently, 1,299 prisoners are on death row, including 48 convicted of drug offenses.

## Plane crash in Germany kills one of Russia's richest women

By DAVID McHUGH  
Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany — One of Russia's richest women, S7 Group co-owner Natalia Filieva, died Sunday in a plane crash in Germany, the airline operator said.

Fileva, 55, was aboard a single-engine, six-seat Epic LT aircraft that crashed and burned in a field as it approached the small airport at Egelsbach, a town in southwestern Germany, about 3:30 p.m. local time, the airline said in an email.

German police said there appeared to be three people aboard the plane, including the pilot of the flight, which originated in France. They said the two passengers were believed to be Russian citizens but that positive identi-



MICHAEL PROBST/AP

The burned debris of a small aircraft lies on a field near the small airport of Egelsbach near Frankfurt, Germany, on Sunday. The crash claimed the life of one of Russia's richest women, Natalia Filieva.

cation of the occupants would require further investigation.

German aviation authorities were probing the cause of the crash. Egelsbach is about 6 miles south of Frankfurt.

The business publication Forbes.ru estimated Filieva's fortune at \$600 million. "S7 Group team extends sin-

cere and heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Fileva's family and loved ones," the company said in a statement.

"The memory of her as an inspiring and sympathetic leader and a wonderful person will forever stay in the hearts of all S7 Group employees. It is an irreparable loss."





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# TSA's social media highlight weird stuff seized

CHINA

RUSSIA

N. KOREA

S. KOREA

Sea of Japan

JAPAN

Pacific Ocean

Seoul 50/29

Osan 51/32

Busan 53/36

Sasebo 53/46

Iwakuni 51/44

Tokyo 50/41

Misawa 40/38

Okinawa 67/62

Guam 82/79

Philippine Sea

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 4th Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Police targeting ATV gangs; 1 man arrested

**FL** ORLANDO — Orlando Police arrested a man they say was part of a swarm of dirt bikers that hit a patrol car and that more arrests are expected. The arrest comes as authorities are cracking down on groups of all-terrain vehicle riders who in recent weeks have hit a sheriff's deputy and assaulted a pregnant woman and her husband after a fender bender.

Orange County Sheriff John Mina said police agencies throughout central Florida met last week to plan tactics for discouraging the groups of ATV and motorcycle riders. The Orlando Sentinel reported the riders run red lights, pop wheelies and weave in and out of traffic.

Deputies have arrested at least 12 riders.

## University's new brew is Strawberry Milkman

**NH** DURHAM — A partnership between the experimental agriculture and beer brewing programs at the University of New Hampshire has produced another brew.

Strawberry Milkman is the third beer to be developed as part of the partnership between the university's brewing science program and the New Hampshire Agriculture Experiment Station.

It's described as a sweet, cloudy India pale ale and is made using strawberries developed for optimal production in New England using advanced genetic techniques. The beer also includes fruit from a multiyear research project that involves growing strawberries in tunnels to extend the growing season.

## Police arrest 9, use pepper spray at mall

**MD** DUNDALK — Police made nine arrests and used pepper spray to break up a disturbance involving hundreds of teens at a Baltimore County shopping mall.

Baltimore County police told news outlets the disturbance began about 9 p.m. Friday at Eastpoint Mall in Dundalk after an event there. Police said they received complaints about fights breaking out and property damage as roughly 300 teens exited the mall.

Police spokesman Shawn Vinson said nine juveniles were arrested on charges including robbery, assault and destruction of property. Local police used pepper spray to gain control of the situation, and called in Maryland State Police for assistance.

## Teen trying to save dog suffers smoke inhalation

**DE** NEW CASTLE — Firefighters said a 17-year-old suffered smoke inhalation trying to save a dog from a burning home in Delaware.

The News Journal in Wilmington reported that the fire occurred Saturday in a home on Robinson Drive near New Castle.

## THE CENSUS

700

The number of used Dunkin' Donuts coffee cups a New Hampshire man used to fashion a surfboard as part of a contest. Corey Nolan, 32, of Hampton Falls, spent seven months collecting the cups for a competition put on by the surf brand Vissla called Creators and Innovators Upcycle Contest, in which Nolan placed second. The Portsmouth Herald reported that Nolan also used more than 30 plastic straws and other materials in his board. Nolan compressed the raw materials together and finished the board using bamboo, epoxy and other products. The top honors went to Titouan La Drotte, who built a board out of 150 aluminum cans.



ANDREW HARNIK/AP

## In full bloom

The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial is visible through cherry blossom trees along the Tidal Basin in Washington on Saturday. Peak bloom was expected Monday, according to the National Park Service.

Firefighters from the Minqua-dale Fire Co. arrived and found the teen running in and out of the house trying to get the dog.

He was taken to the hospital for treatment, and firefighters rescued the dog.

## Gifted lottery ticket pays off for woman

**SC** CHARLESTON — A Charleston woman was given a \$3 lottery ticket and it paid off, winning her \$100,000.

WCIV-TV reported that the winning ticket was purchased at Dodges Store #863 on Johns Island. That business received \$1,000 for selling the ticket.

Having never played the lottery before, the woman — whose name has not been released — was surprised when the Lady Jumbo Bucks Crossword ticket spelled out 11 words to win her the game's top prize. She said the ticket was a gift from "a dear friend" and she still "gets emotional thinking about it."

## Girlfriend surprised with tasty proposal

**SD** SIOUX FALLS — A Sioux Falls woman recently visited her favorite bakery on the premise that she had won free cupcakes, but she left the shop with an engagement ring.

The Argus Leader reported that Paige TeGantvoort was excited when she received an email notification that she was the winner of a free prize from Oh My Cupcakes! in Sioux Falls. She planned to claim her prize with her boyfriend, Chase Weeden.

When TeGantvoort entered the bakery, the owner met her with a box containing six cupcakes. Her name was written on one, and the rest read "Will you marry me?"

TeGantvoort accepted while customers erupted in applause.

## Pipe dream turns into nightmare for pit bull

**NC** CLAREMONT — A pit bull intent on chasing down a opossum was foiled when

he ended up wedged about 100 feet into a pipe in North Carolina. Claremont rescue Chief Eric Jones said in a Facebook post that his agency was called to the scene on March 26.

Rescuers dug holes in different locations to try to find Rocky, eventually locating him at a junction between the cast iron and corrugated pipe.

News outlets reported rescuers took about two hours, using an electric saw, to free the 2-foot-tall dog from the 1-foot-tall pipe.

## Boy missing more than a year found with dad

**FL** SANFORD — A Texas boy, 9, missing for more than a year has been found safe in Florida with his father.

Sanford police said Joshua Graham was taken from Texas by his father in 2017. Authorities said Kenneth Graham, 52, did not have custody of his son and did not tell the boy's mother he was taking him.

Authorities said they located the father and son Saturday while

investigating a suspicious vehicle. The child was reported missing earlier in the week. Police did not say why he was not reported sooner.

The boy is under the care of child welfare officials until he can be reunited with his mother.

## Public ban on vaping extended to cannabis

**CA** LOS ANGELES — Vaping and cannabis will now fall under the existing smoking bans at Los Angeles County beaches, parks, government buildings and other locations.

The Los Angeles Times said the county Board of Supervisors on Tuesday updated the legal definition of "smoke" and "smoking" to cover e-cigarettes and pot.

The cannabis legalization measure Proposition 64 already bans public consumption, but county officials said they updated the ordinance to make clear using pot is illegal in places where tobacco smoking is forbidden.

From wire reports



## FACES

# RP Latino TV

## Cancellation of 'One Day at a Time,' 'Jane the Virgin' hints at challenges faced by minority-themed programs

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS  
Associated Press

Netflix's cancellation of "One Day at a Time" has led to an outcry on social media by the show's viewers. And fans of CW's "Jane the Virgin" are preparing to say goodbye as the show enters its fifth and final season.

The departure of the two Latino-themed shows demonstrates the challenges such projects still encounter on networks and streaming services. Networks may feel pressure to tap into the growing Latino population — now the largest minority group in the U.S. — but the shows often receive limited promotions and are on a short leash from executives who want to see good ratings fast. Advocates of more diversity on television say these shows are often given difficult time slots or are buried deep in the maze of streaming apps.

"It was such a bummer with 'One Day at a Time,'" Mishel Prada, who plays Emma in the Starz series "Vida," told The Associated Press. "Things are changing, but it hasn't changed enough."

ABC faced a similar reaction when it canceled the 2014 sitcom "Cristela," starring stand-up comedian Cristela Alonzo, after one season. The show aired late on Fridays and averaged around 5 million viewers. Likewise, Fox drew criticism when it canceled the 2016 adult animated sitcom "Bordertown," also after one season, despite its cult following in a tough Sunday timeslot.

The cancellations of "Cristela" and "Bordertown" drew anger from Latino audiences and demands that networks produce more shows with Hispanic characters.

William Nericcio, a professor at the Center for Latin American Studies at San Diego State University and co-author of the upcoming book "Talking Brown TV: Latinas and Latinos on the Screen," said there is a hunger for Latino-themed shows.

"But the business is the business. Shows need viewers," Nericcio said. "It's show business, not show art."

For shows to be successful, they must overcome limited publicity from networks and sometimes must rely on word-of-mouth recommendations, Nericcio said.

Other TV shows featuring U.S. Latino characters are trying to capture the attention of fragmented audiences, including those looking for diversity.



Gloria Estefan, left, was a guest star on "One Day at a Time," starring an ensemble cast that included Rita Moreno, right.

Starz is scheduled in May to unveil the second season of "Vida," which follows two Mexican-American sisters in east Los Angeles. Last month, Netflix released the second season of the teen dramedy "On My Block," set in a working-class Latino and black neighborhood in southern California. And Nickelodeon is putting the final touches on "The Casagrandes," a spinoff of its animated series "The Loud House," featuring a Latino family.

**‘The business is the business. Shows need viewers. It’s show business, not show art.’**

William Nericcio  
professor at the Center for Latin American studies, San Diego State University

original "One Day at a Time," which aired from 1975-84.

Mexican-born actress Melissa Barrera, who plays Lyn in "Vida," told The AP that she, too, was "heartbroken" over the cancellation of "One Day at a Time" and hopes it gets a new home soon. But she said it should be a wakeup call for Latino viewers.

"We can't (keep) complaining about representation when we are not supporting each other's shows," Barrera said. "It's our job as a community to actually watch these shows and send a message up the chain ... we are here and we are watching."

## Grammy-nominated rapper Nipsey Hussle shot, killed at age 33

Rapper Nipsey Hussle was fatally shot outside the clothing store he founded to help rebuild his troubled South Los Angeles neighborhood, police said, cutting short a career that earned him a Grammy nomination this year for his major-label debut. He was 33.



Police said Hussle was one of three men shot Sunday outside Marathon Clothing; the other two were in stable condition. Detectives were canvassing the area for witnesses, police Lt. Chris Ramirez said.

Hussle, who had two children and was engaged to actress Lauren London, was an Eritrean American whose real name was Ermias Asghedom.

Hussle was born on Aug. 15, 1985, in the dense Crenshaw neighborhood where he died, and where he had been working to provide youths with alternatives to the hustling he did when he was younger.

Hussle released a number of successful mixtapes that he sold out of the trunk of his car, helping him create a buzz and gain respect from rap purists and his peers. In 2010 he placed on hip-hop magazine XXL's "Freshman Class of 2010" — a coveted list for up-and-coming hip-hop acts.

"Victory Lap," his critically acclaimed major-label debut album on Atlantic Records, made several best-of-lists last year.

At this year's Grammy Awards, "Victory Lap" was one of five nominees for best rap album. Cardi B's invasion of Privacy" won the honor last month.

# Disney's live-action 'Dumbo' not exactly soaring at box office

Associated Press

Disney's "Dumbo" isn't exactly taking flight at the North American box office the way its other live-action remakes of animated classics have.

The Walt Disney Co. said Sunday that the Tim Burton-directed film has earned an estimated \$45 million domestically from 4,259 locations against a \$170 million production budget. It's less than half of what "Beauty and the Beast," "The Jungle Book" and Burton's "Alice in Wonderland" opened to.

The remake of the 1941 animated film stars Colin Farrell and Danny DeVito. It got mixed to negative reviews from critics.

Internationally, "Dumbo" grossed \$71 million.

Disney has two other high-profile live-action remakes coming out this year in "Aladdin" (May 24) and "The Lion King" (July 19).

"I don't think this is a mandate against live-action remakes. But sometimes when you don't have the reviews, it can affect it," said Paul Dergarabedian, Comscore's senior media analyst. "For Disney, the bar is set so high. This is just a little speed bump on what is already a spectacular year for Disney."

"Dumbo" did bump Jordan Peele's "Us" to second place. "Us" added \$33.6 million, down only 53 percent, bringing its domestic total to \$128.2 million in two weeks.

Disney and Marvel's "Captain Marvel" landed in third place in weekend four with an additional \$20.5 million. It's now earned over \$350 million in North America and is expected to cross the \$1 billion mark globally sometime this week.

The teen drama/remake "Five Feet Apart" took fourth place with \$6.3 million, down only 27 percent in its third week.

The pregnancy movie "Unplanned" rounded out the top five with \$6.1 million from only 1,059 theaters.

## Beyonce, 'Black Panther' win at 50th NAACP Image Awards

Beyonce was named entertainer of the year at the 50th annual NAACP Image Awards that highlighted works by entertainers and writers of color.

After Beyonce accepted the award March 30, the superstar paid homage to the other nominees. She beat out Los Angeles Lakers superstar LeBron James, Regina King, Chadwick Boseman and director Ryan Coogler.

"Regina King, I love you so much. You taught us patience, persistence and how to be masterful in your craft," she said. "Chadwick Boseman is teaching children to dream and to be seen as kings. LeBron James has taught us the strength of all forms, leading by example and providing education to our kids. Ryan Coogler tells our stories in a way that celebrates our his-

tory and proves we do have power."

Beyonce released a joint album last year with her husband, Jay-Z, called "Everything is Love." The prolific singer also paid tribute to historically black colleges and universities, as well as the dance troupes and step teams, during her groundbreaking two-hour Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival performance in April 2018.

Jay-Z received the President's Award for the rapper's public service achievements. He was recognized for his efforts through his Shawn Carter Foundation and serving as co-founder of the REFORM Alliance.

"Black Panther" was awarded best motion picture and won in several other categories, including best actor in a motion picture (Boseman), supporting actor in a motion picture (Michael B. Jordan) and directing in a motion picture (Coogler).

## Stones postpone tour as Jagger gets medical treatment

The Rolling Stones are postponing their latest tour so Mick Jagger, 75, can receive medical treatment.

The band announced March 30 that Jagger was told by doctors "he cannot go on tour at this time." The said Jagger "is expected to make a complete recovery so that he can get back on stage as soon as possible." No more details were provided.

The Stones' No Filter Tour was expected to start April 20 in Miami.

## Other news

■ Jonathan McCreynolds was the top winner at the Stellar Gospel Music Awards, taking home six trophies March 29 including artist of the year and song of the year for "Not Lucky." Jekalyn Carr was named female vocalist of the year and The Walls Group won the award for duo/chorus group of the year. The best new artist trophy went to Jabari Johnson.

■ Jonny Lee Miller is taking his irreverent one-man comedy show about Latin history on the road. The comedian will kick off a 12-state U.S. tour of his "Latin History for Morons" at the Apollo Theater in New York starting June 20. The 90-minute show, which investigates Latino culture through the ages, was on Broadway last year, earning a best play Tony Award nomination. A version is on Netflix.

■ A musical inspired by Queen's music is preparing for a North America tour. Producers announced Monday "We Will Rock You" will open in Winnipeg, Canada, on Sept. 3. Other tour stops include New York, Los Angeles, Denver and Las Vegas.

■ Nicolas Cage filed for an annulment March 27, four days after getting married in Las Vegas. A court record shows Cage asked for the annulment citing reasons that included being too drunk to understand his actions when he married girlfriend Erika Kohlenstein. The couple's fourth marriage of the Oscar-winning actor.

# SHIFTING GEARS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HONDA/TNS

## On middle ground 2019 Honda Passport is not too big or too small

BY CHARLES FLEMING  
Los Angeles Times

**H**onda Motors, having made significant sales inroads with its small CR-V and its large Pilot, is tripling down on the SUV market with its new midsize Passport.

This Goldilocks version is meant to attract buyers who find the CR-V too small and tiny and the Pilot too big and pricey. Sliced right into the middle niche, the Passport is going after buyers who otherwise would be looking at the Ford Edge, Toyota 4Runner, Nissan Murano, Subaru Outback or even the Jeep Cherokee.

The company is doing that by pitching the Passport as a lifestyle vehicle, highlighting its rugged good looks and its off-road readiness with advertising lines like "tackle the untamed road" and "gear up for adventure."

Reintroduced for 2019 after a 16-year absence from Honda's fleet, the Passport is a four-door, two-row, five-passenger SUV, driven by the company's 3.5-liter VTEC V-6 engine. This time-tested power plant makes 280 horsepower and 262 pound-feet of torque.

The best use of that power, Honda's ad campaign suggests, is off the highway. Though the all-wheel-drive system comes standard only on the top model — and is a \$1,900 upgrade to the front-wheel-drive system on the others — almost all the promotional material shows the Passport camping, glamping, rock crawling or otherwise sporting around in the great out-of-doors.

Meant to be as comfortable on the road as it is capable off the pavement, it is Honda-sensible. Like everything the company offers, it is intelligently designed, dependably built and ... a little boring.

Designwise, it's almost indistinguish-

### 2018 GMC Acadia



**Highs:** Comfortable, capable, capacious  
**Lows:** Big for a two-row SUV  
**Vehicle type:** Four-door, five-passenger SUV  
**Base price:** \$33,035  
**Price as tested:** \$47,725  
**Powertrain:** 3.5-liter V-6 gasoline engine  
**Transmission:** Nine-speed dual-clutch automatic  
**Power/torque:** 280 horsepower/262 foot-pounds  
**EPA fuel economy rating:** 19 mpg city/24 highway/21 combined

TNS

able from other SUVs in its class. No one, driving down the road, is likely to exclaim: "Hey! That's the new Passport!"

But it's so sensible. The seats are comfortable. The headroom, legroom and visibility are generous. The dashboard and infotainment screens are practical and attractive. Everything in the cabin is easy to see, easy to understand and easy to reach. Cup holders and USB ports are handily located. There are even armrests for the driver and passenger, attached to the center console — not a typical feature on any

vehicle, and very welcome here. The second row slides forward and back, which is not always the case with rear seating.

Also not common, but very welcome, are the sunshades on the rear passenger windows, standard on all but the entry-level Passport, which is also the only trim level that doesn't have the moon roof. (Only the Touring and Elite models get the roof rail as standard equipment.) The rear seats get their own climate control and an AC 115-volt accessory plug-in.

It's also fun to drive. The Passport's nine-speed automatic transmission can be configured in normal or sport mode, and sport mode is quite sporty. Paddle shifters on the steering wheel allow for a more engaged driving experience and a more aggressive use of the engine's power.

Some may quail at the size. The Passport looks big, and feels big, because it is big, especially for a two-row SUV. Though it's 4 inches shorter than the Pilot, and a reported 35 pounds lighter, the two SUVs are the same width and almost the same height.

That allows for the great headroom and legroom, and lots of storage space — 77 cubic feet, with the rear seats folded flat — and a clever "under floor" cargo area.

All models come with the excellent Honda Sensing system, which includes adaptive cruise control, collision mitigation braking and a variety of buzzers and bells to help the driver stay in one lane at a time and stay on the roadway.

The model I drove was the Elite — the top of the trim line, and the only model that comes standard with all-wheel drive. Upgrades on the Elite include niceties such as heated and ventilated front seats, wireless phone charging and rain-sensing windshield wipers.

I enjoyed it on the highway, where it was comfortable and quiet to drive. Though it

is a big SUV, the Passport didn't seem to make too much wind or tire noise. The HVAC system was quiet too and didn't overwhelm the sound system as often happens with SUVs when the temperature demands "high" AC settings.

Off the highway, the Passport was somewhat less convincing. Driving in the Rowher Flat area near Santa Clarita, I experimented with the settings for mud, sand and snow — though I had the opportunity to drive only in mud and sand. With its 20-inch wheels and higher ground clearance

— 8.1 inches on the all-wheel-drive models, which is almost a full inch more than the Pilot and a half-inch more than the CR-V — the Passport navigated potholes and plowed through the muck capably, and didn't seem bothered by the goopy mud or the deep sand.

It did seem bothered by the rough roads, though. Moving at a moderate pace over washboard sections pocked with sharp rocks, I feared for the Passport's future. It rattled and shook in a way that made me concerned about its long-term durability.

Hondas of all kinds are built to last — the company says this one was tested in the sand in Dubai, in the mud in Russia and in the snow in Minnesota — so I'm not suggesting the Passport would fall apart after a few miles of rough road. But it wasn't confidence-inspiring to feel it shake and shimmy like that.

Honda is selling the Passport as a 50-50 vehicle, much as it is the new CRF450X, the company's dual-sport motorcycle. Both vehicles are meant to function just as well on city streets as on crunchy trails.

SUV buyers who want something sportier and more capable feeling may be happy with a Passport. Those who buy a Passport thinking they can start carving up steep canyon walls may be disappointed.

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# OPINION

## Venezuela knows Trump is bluffing

By JACKSON DIEHL

The Washington Post

**B**ack in January, the Trump administration launched an aggressive effort to convince the Venezuelan military that if it did not topple President Nicolas Maduro, it would be destroyed by sanctions and, perhaps, a U.S. invasion. The rhetoric succeeded in alarming American leftists, who loudly denounced the coming coup, and Russia, which dispatched two platoons of military advisers and equipment to stiffen the regime's defenses.

To date, however, the campaign has had virtually no effect on its intended target. There have been no significant defections of Venezuelan generals, and no sign of any move against Maduro, who has remained entrenched in the presidential palace even as opposition demonstrations have sputtered. The drive to replace Maduro with National Assembly leader Juan Guaido, which has been the Trump administration's most robust foreign policy initiative after the attempt to disarm North Korea, has stalled.

The problem here is not the Russians and their mostly for-show intervention. More important is the corruption of senior military leaders and the malign influence of the thousands of Cuban advisers embedded in the chain of command.

The most salient factor, however, may be that, unlike Bernie Sanders and other self-styled resistors of U.S. imperialism, the Venezuelans know that Trump is bluffing. There is no credible U.S. military option in Venezuela, and very little chance that Trump would actually try one.

The result is that the administration lacks a surefire means to bring about the regime change upon which it has staked considerable political capital and prestige.

It has to hope that sanctions, diplomatic pressure and, above all, a horrendous and steadily worsening humanitarian crisis for the 30 million or so people remaining in Venezuela will drop the curtain on a change of leadership.

Venezuelans who support the opposition are growing skeptical. "They think that if they tweet hard enough the government will get scared and run away," said one. "It's not going to happen."

Over the past several years, Maduro, an ignorant and charmless but tenacious ruler, has developed a survival strategy that is part rope-a-dope, part North Korea. He responds to popular demonstrations and strikes by dispatching gangs of paramilitary thugs and other special forces to beat or shoot protesters in poor neighborhoods. He arrests and tortures any military officer suspected of disloyalty.

Most of all, he stands by as Venezuelans suffer life-threatening shortages of food, water and electricity — including power outages that last for days. More than 3 million people have fled the country, and most of those who remain are focused on staying alive. Some, imbibing the regime's relentless propaganda, blame the opposition or Washington for the empty stores and countryside blackouts.

One problem with the administration's strategy is that those charges will start to sound more plausible in the coming months. Though the United States is not responsible for the collapse of Venezuela's economy — that was a pure product of Hugo Chavez's potted version of socialism — the sanctions it imposed on Venezuelan oil in late January could compound the humanitarian crisis.

Oil exports — the country's only significant source of hard currency — are plummeting. According to Russ Dallen, of Caracas Capital, they fell from 1.15 million

barrels a day in January to 650,000 barrels a day in the first half of March — or 43 percent. If that continues, Venezuelan imports of food and medicine, already disastrously insufficient, will drop to a cliff.

Maduro, who has refused most offers of humanitarian aid, finally agreed last week to allow Red Cross deliveries. But that will supply only 650,000 people, a fraction of those in need — and the material help he's receiving from Russia is even more paltry.

If famine begins to spread in what was once Latin America's richest country — a distinct possibility — or millions more refugees pour into Colombia and Brazil, which is even more likely, the pressure on Trump to ease economic sanctions could mount. If it comes from the Latin American countries that until now have been U.S. allies in the anti-Maduro campaign, it will be hard to resist. Trump, after all, launched his offensive only after the Latin-led Lima Group declared Maduro's presidency illegitimate.

The administration's calculation is that the weight of Venezuelan suffering will crack the military before it does the anti-Maduro alliance. Along with the threats of invasion, conciliatory messages have been aimed at the generals, including a promise of amnesty and assurances that the Chavista movement will be free to compete in a restored democracy.

In essence, what was meant to be a swift blitzkrieg against a crumbling dictatorship has turned into a war of attrition in which the primary weapon, for both sides, is human hardship. It's easy to understand why some Venezuelans hope for a U.S. Marines landing that puts a swift stop to it. But notwithstanding Trump's bluffing, that's not the way this crisis will end.

Jackson Diehl is deputy editorial page editor for The Washington Post.

## New litmus tests could backfire against Dems

By KATHLEEN PARKER

Washington Post Writers Group

**I**t may be a truism-in-the-making that one's political career is over when, as a candidate, you must first apologize for your sex and race, which can mean only one thing: Young or old, you're a white guy.

Heaven forbid you should also be long of tooth and tupe of hair.

The Old White Man meme, usually used to describe the Republican Party, seems to have finally won the day. Because the GOP has become increasingly older, whiter and male the past several decades — and since the Republican Party recently has done little to recommend itself to women and minorities — the widely accepted inference is that OWM are inherently bad, if not evil or criminal.

Conservative white women don't fare much better, but at least they're female and, as such, may be viewed as having suffered the boot of the white male until relatively recently. Ah, but that's ancient history, right? "Women Rule" today, according to another popular meme. And, in light of the 2018 midterm results, it may well become true.

In an unexpected twist in the 2020 election season, even some white male Democrats are facing a newly evolved Court of Prior Offenses, which, apparently, can include being born white. If you were born of white privilege, you're in for a bake sale's worth of humble pie.

Plainly, we've crossed a Rubicon of sorts.

In this time and place, the emerging battle lines aren't just demographically defined but constitute a historical reckoning. It isn't enough that women and minorities ascend. It is now seemingly necessary that the oppressor pay for the sins of his forefathers.

No one reading this needs a lecture about colonialism, slavery, genocide or Jim Crow, to mention a few index items.

But all of that history — combined with the emergence of the #MeToo and Black Lives Matter movements, and increasingly diverse society and, notably, the Worst White Guy in Modern America, Donald Trump — has coalesced to produce a new litmus test for future presidents: Are you a white man? And, if so, are you sorry?

So, these two white guys walk into a bar, where Brenda Lee is on the jukebox singing, "I'm Sorry." Not really, but Beto O'Rourke and Joe Biden have both begun apology tours that could become their undoing.

In a recent interview, O'Rourke acknowledged "the truth of the criticism" that he was born of privilege and, as a white male, had more opportunities than others. He already had apologized for writing prose as a teenager about running over children. He also apologized for making an offhand remark about sometimes helping his wife with their three children. Note to Beto: This will never end. Once you start apologizing, especially for things over which you had no control, you are more likely to be perceived as weak — and not real smart.

Biden is remorseful for everything — for supporting a 1994 crime bill, for having called Vice President Mike Pence a "de-

cent guy" — and especially for his role in the Clarence Thomas Supreme Court hearings long ago. Then chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Biden regrets the way Anita Hill was treated — with tough questioning and, as I recall, a hostile environment. All those white men and this lone, black woman. As they say, it wasn't optically optimum.

Additionally, Biden is very upset about what he terms "white man's culture," recalls the Supreme Court in which women have been afraid to speak up in cases of sexual harassment. Well, OK, but if we're going to blame White Man's Culture for all of that, then we ought to add a footnote about the genius of the founders, the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence and, if we're still allowed to use the term, Western civilization.

Trump's success, unfortunately, is based in part upon his attention to white voters who feel marginalized by a culture they increasingly don't recognize, including the blue-collar white guys who used to vote Democratic.

This is not calculus, but it was a calculation that Trump got right. With the end of Trump's investigation and the wackiness emanating from the far left, he may be poised to win again. If Democrats want to woo renegade Republicans and independents — and evict Trump from the White House — they'd best focus on uniting their constituents under a banner of shared values rather than encouraging good men to apologize for being born.

Besides, if most men know, saying you're sorry is never enough.

# Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons

TIM CAMPBELL



CHILDREN OF ANTI-VAXXERS ARE EASY TO SPOT

TIM CAMPBELL/Washington Post News Service

TIM CAMPBELL



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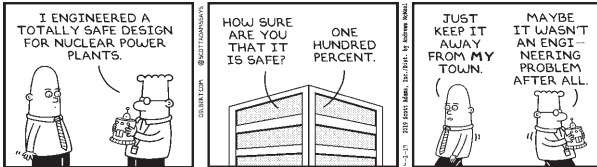


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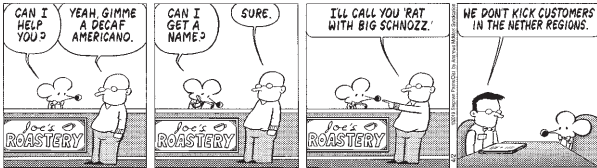
Frazz



Dilbert



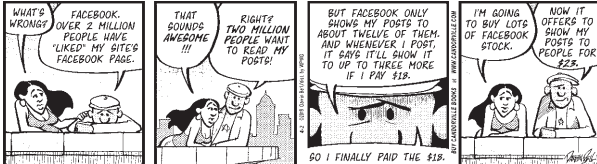
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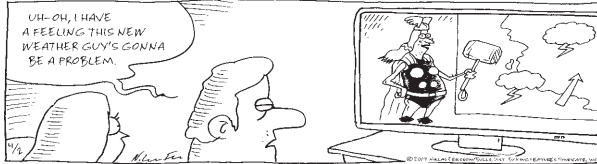
Non Sequitur



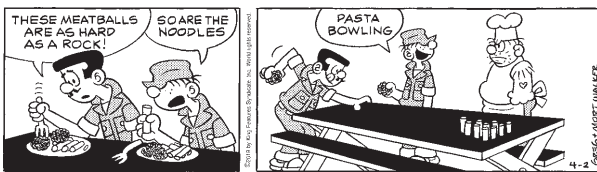
Candorville



Carpe Diem



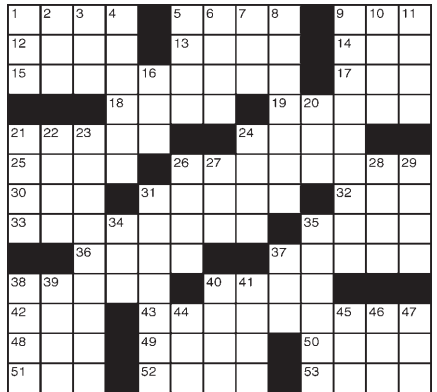
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



# Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## ACROSS

- 1 Chantilly, e.g.
- 5 Chicken —
- 9 Leg, in slang
- 12 Mr. Stravinsky
- 13 Sparkling Italian wine
- 14 Have bills
- 15 Bouncing toy
- 17 Retrieve
- 18 Ruby and Sandra
- 19 Apple products
- 21 Buy more Time?
- 24 Handle
- 25 New Mexico resort
- 26 Monotonous
- 30 Work unit
- 31 Chair designer Charles
- 32 Odometer start
- 33 Winter road clearer
- 35 Remain
- 36 Church area
- 37 Buckwheat porridge
- 38 Physicist Enrico
- 40 Slightly
- 42 White House nickname
- 43 Company emblems
- 48 Grazing land
- 49 Scott Turov book
- 50 Valentine flower

- 51 Curvy letter
- 52 Yuletide tune
- 53 Faction

- 23 Restricted zones
- 24 Recognized
- 26 Shopper's delight

## DOWN

- 1 Back talk
- 2 In the past
- 3 Gear tooth
- 4 Wears away
- 5 Winslet of "Titanic"
- 6 Egyptian deity
- 7 List-ending abbr.
- 8 Minnesota footballers
- 9 '60s footwear
- 10 Dumbstruck
- 11 Citi Field team
- 16 Stitch
- 20 Not neg.
- 21 Numbered rds.
- 22 Deserve
- 27 "As I see it," to a texter
- 28 Ancient mariner
- 29 Maja painter
- 31 Delta follower
- 34 Typing speed stat
- 35 Nymph pursuers
- 37 Tool set
- 38 Dossier
- 39 Stretches (out)
- 40 Baseball's Tommie
- 41 Weevil's target
- 44 Music's Yoko
- 45 "Ulalume" writer
- 46 Computer key
- 47 Filming site

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## 4-2

## CRYPTOQUIP

K Q Z Y H B F B T I Z J J Z  
I V J V M U Z Y V H A E I Y E B R Z J P X F  
K Q B ' P X U B H T I E R L Y B R P B A  
B T Y X T Y ? Z Q E L Q - F E V J H  
M B R H .

Yesterday's Cryptquip: THE CEREAL FUNGUS WAS RAPIDLY ENCRDACHING UPON THE YEARLY CROPS OF RYE AND WHEAT. ERGO, ERGOT.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: Y equals T




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# GOLF/AUTO RACING

## Roundup

# Kisner tops Kuchar for Match Play title

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Kevin Kisner can't think of another tournament that made him grind so hard.

He began the Dell Technologies Match Play with a loss in the opening round. He had to play 120 holes over five days. Three matches were decided on the 18th hole. He had to play three sudden-death playoff holes just to get to the weekend. And on Sunday morning, he faced a cold wind that made temperatures feel like the upper 30s.

It all felt worth it when he made good on his second try at winning golf's most unpredictable tournament.

Kisner outlasted British Open champion Francesco Molinari in the semifinals, and then let Matt Kuchar make the untimely mistakes Sunday afternoon until Kisner closed him out with a 20-foot putt for a 3-and-2 victory.

"Grueling, not only from the mental side, but the physical side," Kisner said. "A lot of golf and a lot of stressful holes and stressful putts."

But then, that's how he got here in the first place.

Kisner, who won \$1,745,000 for his first World Golf Championships title, recalls his father chastising him \$16,000 to see if he could make it as a pro golfer. He won the tournament on the mini-tours, and when his bank account reached \$40,000, he thought he was rich.

The lesson along the way: Make putts or lose money.

That's what works at the Match Play, and he delivered enough key moments to capture the biggest win of his career.

"It was a long week. I prevailed. And I'm a world golf champion," Kisner said.

He became the first player to win Match Play after losing in the championship match the previous year.

"If you'd have told me I'd be sitting here 10 years ago, I would probably have said you were crazy," Kisner said. "I think it shows in my grind. That's what I do. I've had ups and downs throughout it. I've won on every tour, every level. And had tremendous downfalls on every tour and every level. So I pride myself in the way I pick myself up and keep grinding."

Last year wasn't close, as Bubba Watson raced out to a big lead and ended the match on the 12th hole. Kisner never trailed against Kuchar, which didn't make it any easier. Kuchar had a 12-foot putt to win his second straight hole and tie the match on No. 10, with momentum sure to follow.

He missed, and on his next swing, Kuchar put his tee shot in the water on the par-3 11th.

Kisner, equipped with a 2-up lead, took it from there. He made putts from 6 feet and 4 feet to

halve holes, and seized control on the 15th when Kuchar's chip was too strong and led to another lost hole.

"It's tough to maintain the high level of play the entire tournament," Kuchar said. "You hope to do it and I feel like I've kind of built a game that I could rely on playing some good, steady golf. But I gave too many holes away. I knew against Kisner I couldn't do it, and he just plodded along ... and let me make mistakes. And that was good playing by Kevin."

Kisner became the first player to win the Match Play with a loss during the round-robin portion, which began in 2015. That felt like an eternity ago when he posed in front of the trophy, the sixth straight victory for an American in these World Golf Championships.

Kisner first had to get past British Open champion Francesco Molinari, so dominant that he had never played the 18th hole in five previous matches this week. Molinari birdied the 16th and 17th holes to tie the match, but on the 18th, the Italian three-putted from 25 feet above the hole as Kisner advanced.

Kuchar, who won the Match Play in 2013, had to beat Lucas Bjerregaard in the semifinals in another match that went the distance. Bjerregaard, who knocked out Tiger Woods in the quarterfinals with clutch shots down the stretch, made a 10-footer on the 17th to stay alive, but he couldn't come up with the birdie he needed on the 18th.

Molinari beat Bjerregaard in the consolation match.

## Hatakoa wins Kia Classic by three strokes

CARLSBAD, Calif. — Nasa Hatakoa won the Kia Classic on Sunday at Aviara Golf Club for her third victory in her last 16 LPGA Tour starts.

The 20-year-old Japanese player closed with a 5-under 67 for a three-stroke victory over playing partner Inbee Park, top-ranked Sung Hyun Park, Jin Young Ko, Azahara Munoz and Danielle Kang.

Hatakoa, the 20-year-old Japanese player who won two LPGA Tour titles last season, shot a 64 on Saturday to pull within a stroke of Inbee Park entering the final round in the final event before the major ANA Inspiration next week.

Hatakoa finished at 18-under 270. She won the NW Arkansas Championship and Japan Classic last year.

Winless in 12 months, Inbee Park had a 71 to miss a chance for her 20th LPGA Tour victory. Sung Hyun Park also shot 71. Ko and Kang had 65s, and Munoz a 68.

Hyo Joo Kim matched the course record with a 62 to tie for seventh at 14 under.



LARRY PAPKE/AP

Driver Denny Hamlin celebrates in Victory Lane after winning Sunday's NASCAR Cup race at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas.

## Racing roundup

# Hamlin overcomes penalties

Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Denny Hamlin had such a fast car at Texas that he was able to win even after two penalties on pit road and some other issues during green flag conditions.

While Hamlin was reviewing all that happened, crew chief Chris Gabehart interrupted — "I think you passed 327 cars by my count, but maybe not," he said.

Hamlin, who once missed the entry to pit road and also ran out of fuel during the race, did do a lot of passing to get to Victory Lane on Sunday. He led the final 12 laps and 45 overall to overcome those miscues and the penalties — one when he exited pit road too fast early in the day and another for a debatable tire violation against his team during a stop just past the halfway point.

"I was just beating my head against the steering wheel thinking, 'Man, we're going to finish bad with a really fast race car,'" Hamlin said. "We just kept digging and Chris kept doing a good job encouraging us. We had a long way to go. We kept passing cars and passing cars."

Hamlin's No. 11 Toyota finished more than 2.7 seconds ahead of Clint Bowyer. The 334-lap race at the 1½-mile track, with only three cautions outside the two stage stoppages, featured 27 lead changes among 13 drivers.

It was the 33rd career victory for Hamlin. He won the season-opening Daytona 500 after he went winless last year and ending a streak of 12 consecutive seasons getting into Victory Lane.

His third win at Texas was his first since sweeping both races at the track in 2010.

Gibbs drivers have won four of the seven races this season, and Team Penske won the other three.

All four Stewart-Haas Racing cars finished in the top eight, led by Bowyer and Daniel Suarez finishing third. Aric Almirola and Kevin Harvick were seventh and eighth.

Erik Jones, another Gibbs driver, finished fourth and polesitter Jimmie Johnson was fifth, just ahead of his Hendrick Motorsports teammate William Byron. Kurt Busch was ninth and JGR driver Kyle Busch finished 10th despite leading a race-high 66 laps in his attempt for a tripeheader weekend sweep.

Kyle Busch led six times, and was still in front with 59 laps to go when his No. 18 Toyota drifted high going into Turn 2.

"It just busted loose on me, and I had to catch it and make sure we didn't crash," he said.

While he avoided contact then, he slipped back to fourth. When trying to get back in front a few laps later, he brushed the outside wall and fell a lap behind after having to go to pit road.

For the second time in a month, he missed out on a tripeheader sweep following Xfinity and Truck Series races in the same weekend. He completed such sweeps twice at Bristol, in 2010 and 2017.

It was the third time at Texas that Kyle Busch won the Xfinity and Truck races before coming up short in the weekend-ending Cup race. That also happened to him at his home track in Las Vegas four weeks earlier.

While Johnson's career-worst winless drought reached 66 races, he started from the pole for

the first time since 2016 and his 61 laps led were more than he had combined since the start of 2018.

## Ferrari gifts Hamilton another victory

SAKHIR, Bahrain — Lewis Hamilton's surprise win for Mercedes at the Bahrain Grand Prix on Sunday was the latest present from rival Ferrari, served on a silver platter and wrapped with a red ribbon.

Hamilton won at a canter despite the Silver Arrows lagging behind the red Ferraris for most of the race.

First, Sebastian Vettel imploded under pressure from Hamilton, spiraling out of contention some 20 laps from the end as the pair of five-time Formula One champions fought for what seemed like second place.

Then it got even worse for Ferrari as race leader Charles Leclerc's engine started losing power.

"[It was] just a loss of power, completely," Leclerc said. "There were no signs before."

It was the F1 equivalent of an open-goal in soccer for Hamilton, who took full advantage before getting a post-race hug from former Manchester United and England star David Beckham, who waved the checkered flag on Hamilton's 74th career win. Only seven-time F1 champion Michael Schumacher has more with 91.

Leclerc finished third behind Valtteri Bottas as Mercedes somehow clinched a second straight 1-2 from two races.

Red Bull's Verstappen placed fourth with Vettel crossing in fifth.



# NHL/TENNIS



JOSIE LEPE/AP

Flames goaltender Mike Smith, second from right, and teammates celebrate their 5-3 win against the Sharks on Sunday in San Jose, Calif. Calgary clinched the top spot in the Western Conference.

## Roundup

# Flames lock up top spot in West

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — It wasn't discussed before the Calgary Flames took the ice Sunday night.

It didn't have to be. With a first divisional championship in 13 years within their grasp, they left nothing to chance.

The Flames scored three times in less than two minutes late in the first period on their way to clinching the top spots in the Western Conference and the Pacific Division with a 5-3 victory over the San Jose Sharks on Sunday night.

"Nothing was said," Flames goalie Mike Smith acknowledged when asked about the mood in the locker before the game. "It was pretty quiet as far as talking about that. There was a feeling that everyone knew what was at stake here, and I think we did a good job of looking after what we needed to look after."

Sean Monahan, Matt Jankowski, Dalton Prout, Mikael Backlund and Michael Frolik all scored for Calgary, which won for the eighth time in 11 games. The Flames will have home-ice advantage throughout the Western Conference playoffs.

It's the first time the Flames have won their division since capturing the Northwest title in 2006.

"It's huge," said Monahan, in his fifth season with Calgary. "I've been here a long time now and it's tough enough to make it to the playoffs, so I think to do what we did is pretty special and it's something I'll always remember."

"We've got a lot of work ahead of us, and as a group we know what we're in for."

**Coyotes 4, Wild 0.** Darcy Kuemper made 36 saves for his fifth shutout of the season, Josh

Archibald scored two goals and host Arizona kept its playoff push going.

It was Kuemper's second shutout in three games and the Coyotes moved within one point of Colorado for the second wild-card spot in the Western Conference with three games to play. The Avalanche have four games remaining. The Coyotes, who have not made the playoffs since 2012, have won 10 of their last 12 at home.

**Penguins 3, Hurricanes 1:** Matt Murray stopped 37 shots and host Pittsburgh inched closer to a playoff berth.

Carolina's bid to reach the post-season for the first time in a decade took a hit. The Hurricanes have 93 points with a week to go in the regular season, just one point ahead of the ninth-place Canadiens.

**Rangers 3, Flyers 0:** Alexander Georgiev made 29 saves and Ryan Strome scored for the third consecutive game to lead visiting New York.

Pavel Buchnevich, and Brady Skjei also scored for the Rangers and Brett Howden had two assists.

**Blue Jackets 4, Sabres 0:** Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 38 shots, leading visiting Columbus to its fifth straight victory.

With 94 points, the Blue Jackets jumped into seventh-place in the Eastern Conference standings, a point ahead of Carolina and two points over ice Montreal.

**Red Wings 6, Bruins 3:** Taro Hirose scored his first NHL goal early in the third period, just 8 seconds after Anthony Mantha completed his first hat trick for Detroit.

Jimmy Howard had 31 saves for the Red Wings, who have won five straight for the first time this season.

## NHL scoreboards

### Eastern Conference

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
z-Tampa Bay	78	59	14	122	309	212
x-Boston	79	47	23	103	347	201
x-Washington	79	44	24	102	273	240
x-N.Y. Islanders	78	45	26	97	306	193
Toronto	78	45	26	97	277	237
Pittsburgh	79	43	25	11	97	265
Columbus	79	45	30	94	247	222
Carolina	79	43	29	7	93	234

Montreal	79	42	29	8	92	238	227
Philadelphia	79	37	34	8	82	236	254
Florida	79	37	32	12	82	258	277
N.Y. Rangers	78	31	34	13	75	218	258
Buffalo	79	35	30	12	82	216	265
Detroit	79	31	38	10	72	213	265
New Jersey	79	30	40	10	68	213	267
Ottawa	78	28	44	6	62	232	285

GP = Games Played; W = Wins; L = Losses; OT = Overtime; Pts = Points; GF = Goals For; GA = Goals Against

### Western Conference

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
z-Calgary	79	49	23	105	280	219
x-San Jose	79	44	26	9	97	279
N.Y. Islanders	78	45	29	9	94	231
x-Nashville	79	44	29	6	94	229
x-St. Louis	78	42	28	8	92	212
x-Vegas	79	42	30	7	91	233
Dallas	79	41	31	7	89	200
Colorado	78	36	29	13	85	247

Arizona	78	33	38	8	84	206	215
Minnesota	78	33	38	11	75	259	279
Chicago	78	34	33	11	75	259	279
Vancouver	79	35	30	10	87	216	246
Edmonton	78	34	35	9	77	224	261
Anaheim	80	33	37	10	76	248	285
Los Angeles	78	29	40	9	67	190	249

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss, top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

### z-clinched playoff spot

### x-clinched playoff spot

### Saturday's games

Florida 4, Boston 1	Carolina 5, Philadelphia 2
Montreal 3, Winnipeg 1	Ottawa 4, Toronto 2
N.Y. Islanders 5, Buffalo 1	Washington 6, Tampa Bay 3
St. Louis 5, New Jersey 2, OT	Columbus 5, Nashville 2
San Jose 4, Vegas 3, OT	Los Angeles 5, Edmonton 1
Vancouver 1, Dallas 2, SO	N.Y. Rangers 3, Philadelphia 0
Los Angeles 3, Chicago 1	N.Y. Rangers 3, Carolina 1
Edmonton 0, Detroit 6, Boston 3	Calgary 5, San Jose 3

### Monday's games

Washington at Florida	Montreal vs. N.Y. Islanders at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum
N.Y. Rangers at New Jersey	Tampa Bay at Chicago
Colorado at St. Louis	Winnipeg at Chicago
Edmonton at Vegas	Calgary at Los Angeles

### Tuesday's games

Nashville at Buffalo	Philadelphia at Minnesota
Winnipeg at Chicago	Philadelphia at Colorado
Los Angeles at Arizona	San Jose at Vancouver
Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers	St. Louis at Chicago
Calgary at Anaheim	

### Wednesday's games

Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers	St. Louis at Chicago
Calgary at Anaheim	

### Sunday

### Blue Jackets 4, Sabres 0

Columbus	3	1	0-4
First Period—1, Columbus, Dubois 25 (Werenski, Jones), 7:14, 2, Columbus, Werenski 30 (Cormier, Kreider), 16:25, 2, Columbus, Foligno 17 (Dzingsel), 17:47.			
Second Period—Columbus, Anderson 30 (Dzingsel, 15:31).			
Shots on Goal—Columbus 13-11-26; Sabres 12-13-12.			
Power-play opportunities—Columbus 0 of 3; Sabres 0 of 4.			
Goalsies—Columbus, Bobrovsky 36-23-1 (38 shots-38 saves), Buffalo, Ulmark 14-14-5 (36-23).			
A-17,990 (19,070), T-2:22.			

### Rangers 3, Flyers 0

N.Y. Flyers	0	0	1-3
First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Buchnevich 10 (Cormier, Kreider), 16:25, 2, N.Y. Rangers, Strome 18 (Smith, Howden), 17:47.			
Second Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Skjei 7 (Strome, Howden), 7:39.			
Shots on Goal—N.Y. Rangers 9-10-10; Philadelphia 7-11-19-29.			
Goalsies—N.Y. Rangers, Georgiev 13-13-31 (38 shots-38 saves), Philadelphia, Hart 16-21-12 (25-22).			
A-15,437 (15,543), T-2:21.			

### Coyotes 4, Wild 0

Minnesota	0	0	0-0
First Period—1, Arizona, Galchenyuk 18 (Eklund-Larsson, Cousins), 7:48.			
Second Period—2, Arizona, Archibald 11 (Stapan, Demers), 15:17.			
Third Period—3, Arizona, Archibald 12 (Crouse), 18:10, 4, Arizona, Hinostrero 16 (Archibald), 19:51.			
Shots on Goal—Minnesota 11-12-16-39; Arizona 7-8-23-28.			
Power-play opportunities—Minnesota 0 of 3; Arizona 0 of 3.			
Goalsies—Minnesota, Dubnyk 30-28-6 (21 shots-19 saves), Arizona, Kuemper 26-19-8 (38-37).			
A-17,431 (17,125), T-2:30.			

### Penguins 3, Hurricanes 1

Carolina	0	0	1-1
First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Wilson 2 (Johnson, Cullen), 10:45, 2, Pittsburgh, Cullen 7 (Dumoulin, A.Johnson), 18:45.			
Second Period—3, Pittsburgh, Hornqvist 18 (Bjorkstrand, Simon), 0:46, 4, Carolina, Slavin 8 (Sveinsson, Ferland), 12:12 (pp).			
Shots on Goal—Carolina 9-9-20-38; Pittsburgh 12-7-9-28.			
Power-play opportunities—Carolina 1 of 2; Pittsburgh 0 of 1.			
Goalsies—Carolina, McElhinney 19-11-2 (28 shots-25 saves), Pittsburgh, Murray 28-13-5 (38-37).			
A-18,616 (18,387), T-2:40.			

### Flames 5, Sharks 3

Calgary	3	1	1-5
First Period—1, San Jose, Meier 10 (Dorsico, Foligno), 12:01, 2, Calgary, Monahan 34 (Gaudreau, Andersson), 14:58, 3, Calgary, Jankowski 12 (Czarnik, Neal), 15:29, 4, Calgary, Prout 1 (Mangiapane, Hatheway), 16:13.			
Second Period—5, Calgary, Backlund 21 (Gaudreau, Hanfman), 7:27.			
Third Period—6, San Jose, Couture 27 (Hertl, Meier), 5:23, 7, Calgary, Frolik 16 (Tkachuk, Giordano), 8:25, 8, San Jose, Lacroix 15 (Gaudreau, Hanfman), 15:15.			
Shots on Goal—Calgary 11-14-32-37.			
Power-play opportunities—Calgary 0 of 6; San Jose 0 of 2.			
Goalsies—Calgary, Smith 23-15-2 (15 shots-12 saves), San Jose, Dell 9-8-4 (28-23).			
A-17,313 (17,562), T-2:21.			

### Red Wings 6, Bruins 3

Boston	0	0	0-3
First Period—1, Detroit, Mantha 20 (Bertuzzi, Larkin), 10:26, 2, Detroit, Mantha 21 (Kronwall, Bertuzzi), 15:59 (pp).			
Second Period—3, Boston, DeBruick 25 (Kreider, McAvoy), 10:31, 3, Boston, Mantha 35 (Carlo, Bergeron), 9:50, 8:58, 5, Boston, Backlund 7 (Miller, Kreier), 19:00.			
Third Period—6, Detroit, Mantha 22 (Athanasios, Bertuzzi), 1:17 (pp), 7, Detroit, Hirose 1 (Athanasios, Kronwall), 1:25, 8, Detroit, Hirose 5 (Mantha), 12:03, 9, Detroit, Larkin 32 (Mantha, Kronwall), 19:05.			
Shots on Goal—Boston 8-9-17-34; Detroit 9-8-11-28.			
Power-play opportunities—Boston 0 of 4; Detroit 2 of 5.			
Goalsies—Boston, Hellekar 21-14-12 (27 shots-22 saves), Detroit, Howard 22-20-5 (34-31).			
A-19,515 (20,000), T-2:29.			

### Leaders

Scoring	GP	P	G	A	PTS
Nikita Kucherov, TB	78	39	83	122	
Connor McDavid, EDM	74	40	74	114	
Patrick Kane, TOR	77	44	66	110	
Neal Draisaitl, EDM	77	47	54	101	
Brad Marchand, BOS	78	63	68		
Johnny Gaudreau, CGY	79	61	96		
Nathan MacKinnon, COL	78	39	56	95	
David Pastrnak, BOS	76	41	52	93	
Steven Stamkos, TB	78	41	52	93	
Alexander Barkov, FLA	73	34	57	91	
Michael Van der Pijl, TOR	77	44	66	110	
Brayden Point, TB	76	40	50	90	
Wendell Van Regen, TOR	76	40	50	90	
Alex Ovechkin, WAS	78	51	37	88	
Jonathan Huberdeau, FLA	79	27	61	88	
1 tied with 87 pts.					

### Calendar

April 6 — Last day of regular season.	
April 10 — Stanley Cup playoffs begin.	
May 27/June 1 — NHL scouting combine, Buffalo, N.Y.	
June 18 — Last possible day for Stanley Cup Final.	
June 19 — NHL general managers meetings, Vancouver, British Columbia.	
June 21-22 — NHL Draft, Vancouver, British Columbia.	
July 1 — Free agency begins nationwide.	
Oct. 26 — Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic, Calgary v. Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatchewan.	



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Roger Federer holds the trophy after defeating John Isner in the Miami Open on Sunday.

# Federer earns his 101st title

By STEVEN WINE  
Associated Press

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — Orange streamers rained down while Roger Federer held another championship trophy aloft, his familiar grin as wide as ever.

For the ageless Federer, winning never gets old.

Now 37, Federer made tennis' first repeat champion of 2019 when he won his 101st career title Sunday by beating a hobbled John Isner in the Miami Open final, 6-1, 6-4.

Federer neutralized Isner's big serve and won 32 of 35 points on his own serve. The 6-foot-10 Isner scrambled so desperately to stay in rallies that he hurt his left foot and limped badly through the final few points.

Isner said afterward he didn't yet know the nature of the injury.

Federer, by contrast, is just fine. He won the Dubai champion on March 2, and was runner-up to Dominic Thiem at Indian Wells two weeks ago.

"This is a good phase, a good stretch for me right now," Federer said. "I really feel super healthy. That's why I have been able to play every day for the last four weeks. That's something that maybe hasn't always been the case for the last few years. So you appreciate these moments."

Federer is 18-2 this year, best on the men's tour, which stamps him as a threat to add to his record total of 20 Grand Slam titles in 2019.

"Unbelievable for you to keep winning and playing this level of tennis," Miami tournament director James Blake, a former top-five player, told Federer at the trophy presentation. "It makes me feel like such an underachiever. We're all just in awe."

Isner also paid tribute to Federer during the ceremony.

"You were entirely too good today, entirely too good this whole tournament," Isner said. "You are entirely too good your whole career. It's absolutely incredible what you're doing. We're so lucky to have you in this game, and we all want to keep playing and literally never retire. So keep it up, man."







## MLB

## Harper powers Phillies' sweep

BY DAN GELSTON  
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Bryce Harper turned Philly into a baseball city again with his star power, his slugging and a sweep. With a pair of mammoth homers making him at home in his new digs, Harper is now ready for a blast from the past.

The six-time All-Star homered for the second straight game to cap a fantastic debut weekend and the Philadelphia Phillies completed a three-game sweep of the Atlanta Braves with a 5-1 victory Sunday night.

Harper connected on a solo shot to right field off Shane Cae in the seventh inning that had the crowd resuming its "MVP!" chants from a day earlier and the Phillie Phanatic dancing atop the dugout.

"If it hits the front row, I'm fine," Harper said. "I don't care how far it goes. It's not how far, it's how many."

The sweep was complete — and now it's time for an early reunion.

Harper, the hit of the city, is back on familiar turf this week when the Phillies head to Washington for a two-game set with the Nationals.

The outfielder left as a free agent for the Phillies and a 13-year, \$330 million contract and digs in to an unknown fan reaction on Tuesday.

"I'm sure some cheers, some boos as well," Harper said. "Jake Arrieta (1-0) walked six, struck out two and allowed a run in six innings."

## Scoreboard

FROM PAGE 28

Pirates 5, Reds 0													
Pittsburgh	ab	r	h	bi	Cincinnati	ab	r	h	bi				
A.Frazier 2b	5	1	2	0	Schlierer lf	4	0	0	0				
S.Marte cf	4	0	1	1	K.Frmer ph	1	0	0	0				
Dickson if	4	0	0	1	Votto 1b	4	0	0	0				
Bell 3b	4	0	0	0	Peraza 2b	4	0	0	0				
Crevell c	3	1	1	0	E.Sarez 3b	3	0	0	0				
Kang 2b	4	0	0	0	M.Kemp lf	4	0	0	0				
McClure rf	4	1	2	0	Peraza 2b	4	0	0	0				
MSgrove p	0	0	0	0	Brnhart c	3	0	1	0				
Moran ph	1	0	1	0	Jilgess ss	2	0	1	0				
FVAzquez p	0	0	0	0	Sphepn p	0	0	0	0				
Winkler ph	1	0	0	0	Winkler ph	1	0	0	0				
Gonzalez ss	4	0	0	0	Hughes p	0	0	0	0				
Willingham 1b	4	0	0	0	S.Gray p	1	0	0	0				
PRieves rf	1	0	0	0	Luzardo p	1	0	0	0				
Totals					36	5	10	5	0				
Totals					111	000	020	—5					
Pitchers					000	000	000	000	—0				
E. Schlierer (0), ESarez (0), S. Gray (0), DP—Pittsburgh 1, Cincinnati 2, LOB—Pittsburgh 12, Cincinnati 8, Errors—Kang (0), Votto (1), Se—S. Marte.													

Pittsburgh	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Williams W	6	3	0	0	0	1
Winkler H	2	2	0	0	0	1
Vazquez H	7	9	1	0	0	1
Kelly	1	5	0	0	0	1
Cincinnati	2	5	1	0	0	0
Grayson L	2	5	3	2	4	0
Lorenzen	2	5	0	0	0	0
Peralta	2	0	0	0	2	0
Stephenson	2	2	0	1	0	3
Hughes	2	2	0	0	0	0
HBP—by Gray (Cincinnati). T—3:15. A—18,737 (42,315).						



JEFFREY PHELPS/AP

Thee Brewers' Christian Yelich reacts after his winning double in the ninth inning against the Cardinals on Sunday in Milwaukee.

## Roundup

## Yelich pushes Brewers over Cards

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Christian Yelich hit his fourth homer of the season in the first inning and a two-run double in the ninth, leading the Milwaukee Brewers to a dramatic 5-4 win over the St. Louis Cardinals on Sunday.

Ben Gamel led off the ninth with a pinch-hit double and advanced on Lorenzo Cain's infield single off reliever Jordan Hicks' glove. Yelich then hit a liner into the gap in left-center, driving in Gamel and Cain.

Yelich tossed his helmet in the air in celebration as Cain slid face first across the plate, giving Milwaukee three wins in its opening four-game set against rival St. Louis. Yelich's teammates rushed the field and doused the reigning NL MVP with Gatorade in a raucous celebration at Sunday.

"We were just trying to find a way to push one across and tie the game," Yelich said. "[Hicks] has great stuff. One snuck in the line, and Lo's deflected off his glove and we were able to put it off."

Yelich began his day with a long drive into the second deck in right against Michael Wacha, tying the major league record for homers in consecutive games to start a season. He also became the first player to win the MVP award and then homer in his first four games of the next season.

"What we're witnessing is greatness," Milwaukee slugger Ryan Braun said. "It's absolutely incredible."

Paul Goldschmidt, Matt Carpenter and Paul DeJong homered for St. Louis, but Hicks (0-1) blew his first save opportunity of the season.

**Mariners 10, Red Sox 8:** Omar Narvaez hit a three-run homer off Rick Porcello in host Seattle's seven-run third inning.

Dee Gordon had two hits and three RBIs as Seattle put together another impressive performance at the plate. The Mariners scored 34 times while taking three of four from the defending World Series champions in their first series at home.

Jay Bruce also connected for Seattle, and Mitch Haniger had two hits and two RBIs. The Mariners have 15 homers so far, hitting at least one in each of their six games.

**Nationals 6, Mets 5:** Trea Turner homered twice, including a game-ending solo shot, and host Washington beat New York for its first win of the season.

Turner earlier hit a three-run homer and also scored in the fifth to put the Nationals up 4-1. They let a 5-2 lead evaporate in the eighth before Turner ended it with a drive off Justin Wilson (0-1).

Patrick Corbin gave up two runs and seven hits in six innings in his Washington debut.

**Orioles 7, Yankees 5:** Renato Nunez, Trey Mancini and Joey Rickard hit Baltimore's first home runs of the year to beat host New York in a game delayed more than three hours by rain.

Coming off a 115-loss season under Buck Showalter, the Orioles and new manager Brandon Hyde opened by taking two of three from the 100-win Yankees. Baltimore hadn't won two in a row since August.

**Padres 3, Giants 1:** Manny Machado drove in the go-ahead run with a bases-loaded groundout for host San Diego in the seventh inning.

Chris Paddack struck out seven in five impressive innings in his major league debut. Four pitchers combined on a two-hitter for the Padres, who took three of four from San Francisco.

**Rangers 11, Cubs 10:** Joey

Gallo scored on a wild pitch in the ninth inning, sending host Texas to the win.

With one out in the ninth and Chicago playing five infielders, Gallo raced home from third base when Pedro Strop's pitch bounced past catcher Willson Contreras.

Delino DeShields hit his first career grand slam for Texas. Jeff Mathis and Asdrubal Cabrera also went deep.

**Rays 3, Astros 1:** Yonny Chirinos covered splendidly for a taxed bullpen, Austin Meadows hit his second homer and host Tampa Bay took three of four games from Houston.

The Rays had planned to use an opener for the first time this season, but manager Kevin Cash instead turned to the 25-year-old Chirinos rather than push his fatigued relievers. Chirinos pitched seven innings of one-run ball.

**White Sox 6, Royals 3:** Lucas Golito took a no-hit bid into the seventh inning in his first start of the season, and visiting Chicago averted a three-game sweep.

Homerod Alonso and Jose Abreu homered on consecutive pitches in the fourth off starter Jorge Lopez (0-1).

**Twins 9, Indians 3:** Nelson Cruz hit his first homer with host Minnesota, and Michael Pineda was stellar in his first pitching appearance since 2017.

Pineda had Tommy John surgery after his previous start July 5, 2017 while with the New York Yankees, and this was his first time back on a big league mound.

Pineda pitched four scoreless innings, striking out five with one hit and one walk.

**Dodgers 8, Diamondbacks 7:** A.J. Pollock hit a key two-run double during host Los Angeles' eighth-inning rally.

Pollock tied it at 7 with a shot down the line against Yoshihisa

Hirano (0-1) and advanced to third when right fielder Adam Jones misplayed the ball. Pollock, a former Diamondback who signed with Los Angeles this off-season, scored on Max Muncy's sacrifice fly.

**Tigers 4, Blue Jays 3 (11):** Nicholas Castellanos singled home the go-ahead run in the 11th inning, Jeimer Candelario had five hits and visiting Detroit defeated Toronto after blowing a late lead.

Castellanos' decisive hit came off Thomas Pannone (0-1), the eighth Blue Jays pitcher, and the Tigers salvaged a split of the four-game series.

**Marlins 3, Rockies 0:** Sandy Alcántara pitched eight crisp innings for host Miami, and Jorge Alfaro drove in two runs.

Alcántara (1-0) allowed four hits in his longest outing in 15 major league appearances. The 23-year-old right-hander retired 14 straight before Ryan McMahon reached on a two-out infield single in the seventh.

**Pirates 5, Reds 0:** Trevor Williams pitched six effective innings and drove in two runs, helping visiting Pittsburgh beat sloppy Cincinnati.

Williams picked up where he left off last season, when he was the only major leaguer to make 10 starts of at least six innings without allowing a run. The right-hander gave up three hits, struck out six and walked one.

**Athletics 2, Angels 1:** Kris Davis homered for the fourth time in six games, and Frankie Montas pitched into the seventh inning for host Oakland.

Marcus Semien and Matt Chapman had two hits apiece for the A's, who took three of four from the Angels after getting swept by Seattle in a two-game series in Tokyo to start the season.

## NCAA TOURNAMENT

## Finally...

## Auburn into semifinals for first time

By DAVE SKRETTA  
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The confetti was still swirling around Auburn coach Bruce Pearl when he gazed over a team headed to the first Final Four in school history and declared, "This one was for Chuma!"

"The next two," Pearl added with a triumphant grin, "are for Auburn."

Drawing inspiration from injured forward Chuma Okeke, the No. 5 seed Tigers finished off a joyful romp through college basketball royalty by bringing down the winningest program of all. Their 77-71 overtime win over second-seeded seed Kentucky in the finals of the Midwest Region on Sunday came after blowouts of Kansas and North Carolina that served notice: Auburn is more than a football school.

Jared Harper led the way with 26 points, including the tying basket in regulation and a crucial series of layups in overtime. Bryce Brown added 24 points and Anfernee McLemore came up big in the extra session, helping Auburn (30-9) set a school record for wins with its 12th straight overall.

"We wanted to make history," Pearl said. "You have to understand, at Auburn in athletics, we're not Cinderellas in anything. We're really, really good in all those other sports. We win championships. Been a long time since men's basketball has been good."

Okeke was there in more than just spirit, too. The sophomore forward, who tore his ACL in the final minutes against the

Tar Heels, was rolled behind the bench in a wheelchair early in the second half.

He was still there when the wild celebration finally began.

"Moving him to the gym, sitting him on the bench — he doesn't want the camera on him," Pearl said. "He must have been watching the first half at the hotel and said, 'I can't stay here. I got to go.'"

The Tigers had only reached the Elite Eight once before, and that was 33 years ago. But after twice losing to Kentucky during the regular season, they rose to the occasion on the game's biggest stage.

Next stop: the Final Four and a national semifinal date with Virginia.

"I'm so glad we came out and battled the whole entire 40 minutes for Chuma," Brown said. "If he was out there, he would have made a huge difference."

Auburn forced overtime when Harper made a tying layup with 38 seconds left, and the diminutive guard added the first four points of the extra session. And when Ashton Hagans scored for Kentucky, it was McLemore who added back-to-back baskets that forced the Wildcats to play catch-up.

They never made it all the way back.

Samir Doughty made the second of two free throws to give Auburn a cushion with 16.1 seconds to go, and the Wildcats' Keldon Johnson misfired at the other end, crapping up a victory that surely sent the Tigers' fan base streaming to Toomer's Corner.



CHARLIE REDEL/AP

**Auburn players celebrate Sunday after beating Kentucky, 77-71 in overtime of the Midwest Region final in Kansas City, Mo. It is the first time in school history the team has advanced to the Final Four.**

"They played aggressive. They played tough. They bumped and it was a grinding-type game," Kentucky coach John Calipari said. "They deserved to win the game."

PJ Washington came off the bench and had 28 points and 13 rebounds for the Wildcats, but he also had a shot blocked that could have given him the team lead in the final seconds of regulation. Johnson added 14 points and Hagans finished with 10, though he also

committed seven turnovers.

"We thought we were going to win," said Washington, who declined to say whether it was his final game at Kentucky. "Just a lot of emotions not being able to finish it the way I wanted to."

Pearl acknowledged his team would need to shoot lights-out to beat Kentucky, and midway through the first half the Tigers were still searching for the switch.

The team that knocked down

17 three-pointers against North Carolina missed seven of its first eight shots against Kentucky. Brown clanked two wide-open attempts in the first minute, and his brazen bunch quickly found themselves staring at a big hole against a much bigger team.

The plan for Big Blue Nation was simple: bludgeon Auburn inside. And it became a whole lot easier when forwards Malik Dunbar, Horace Spencer and Austin Wiley picked up two fouls apiece.

## Women's roundup

## Ionescu lifts Oregon over No. 1 Mississippi State



STEVE DIPOLIA/AP

**Oregon guard Sabrina Ionescu, right, shoots over Mississippi State guard Jordan Danberry during their regional final Sunday in Portland, Ore. Oregon beat Mississippi State 88-84.**

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Thanks to another stellar performance from Sabrina Ionescu and a lift from a home-state crowd, Oregon is heading to its first women's Final Four.

Ionescu had 31 points, eight assists and seven rebounds, and the second-seeded Ducks beat No. 1 seed Mississippi State 88-84 on Saturday.

Sabou Sabally had 22 points and seven rebounds for the Ducks (33-4), who head to Tampa to face the winner of Monday's game between top overall seed Baylor and Iowa.

At the final buzzer, Ionescu jumped into teammate Thyrea Hubbard's arms, and coach Kelly Graves flashed an "O" with his hands to the crowd. The Ducks had been eliminated in the Elite Eight the past two seasons.

Teaira McCowan had 19 points and 15 rebounds in her final game for the Bulldogs (33-3), who had played in the NCAA title game for the past two seasons. Two of Mississippi State's losses this season were to Oregon, and the first one was a true road game.

This time, Mississippi State just felt like the away team, even though the Bulldogs were their home whites. Attendance at the Moda Center was announced at 11,534, with the vast majority cheering on the Ducks — a tough draw for a top seed.

Ionescu's jumper put Oregon up 78-73 with just under three minutes left. After McCowan made a pair of free throws, Ionescu added a 3.

Bre'Amber Scott's layup with 54 seconds left pulled the Bulldogs within 81-77, but Maite Cazorla answered with a three-pointer for the Ducks. Jazzmun Holmes' jumper cut the margin to five points with 26.4 seconds to go, but Mississippi State could not catch up.

Oregon also beat Mississippi State in December, ending the Bulldogs' streak of 46 consecutive regular-season nonconference wins.

Ionescu averaged 19.6 points, 8.3 assists and 7.5 rebounds going into Sunday's game. The Pac-12 Player of the Year has 18 career triple-doubles, an NCAA record among men and women, including eight this season.

**UConn 80, Louisville 73:** Katie Lou Samuelson put UConn on her injured back and shot the Huskies into a record 12th straight Final Four.

Samuelson scored 29 points and second-seeded UConn held off No. 1 Louisville.

"She made some shots today that only really special players make at this particular time," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said. "This is when players separate themselves in these games."

The Huskies (35-2) have won six national championships and had a 111-game winning streak during their remarkable Final Four run. They will be looking to try and reach the title game for the first time in three years after they have lost on last-second shots in the past two national semifinals.

Samuelson hit seven of the team's 14 three-pointers, including many big shots in the fourth quarter.

"I wanted to keep my career going," she said. "I had to step up. They were really making it hard for us, so I had to do what I could."

## NCAA TOURNAMENT

## Winston carries Michigan State past Duke

Spartans back in Final Four for first time since 2015

BY STEPHEN WHYNO  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Cassius Winston put Michigan State on his shoulders and carried the Spartans into the Final Four for the first time since 2015.

The do-everything point guard took over the game when his team faced its biggest deficit and led second-seeded Michigan State to a 68-67 victory over Duke that likely ended Zion Williamson's collegiate career.

Williamson, the presumptive top pick in the NBA Draft and the biggest star of this NCAA Tournament, had a game-high 24 points and 14 rebounds for Duke. But it was Winston who stole the show with 20 points and 10 assists. He made nine of his 23 shots and never shied away from taking it at Duke and shooting at nearly every opportunity in the East Regional final Sunday.

"Now is not the time to doubt yourself," Winston said. "We've been working, we've been playing all year to get to these moments. Now's not the time to shy away from those big moments."

The biggest moment is yet to come. Michigan State will play Texas Tech in one national semifinal Saturday in Minneapolis. Virginia faces Auburn in the other.

"We're not done yet, and it feels good," senior guard Matt McQuaid said.

Winston was the facilitator but the Spar-



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

**Michigan State guard Cassius Winston, right, celebrates with teammates, from left, Matt McQuaid, Nick Ward and Gabe Brown after defeating Duke in the NCAA East Regional final in Washington on Sunday.**

tans received a huge boost from their oldest player, Kenny Goins, a fifth-year senior who missed his first four three-point attempts, drained the go-ahead shot with 34.3 seconds left to put Michigan State up 68-66.

"I was out there, great pass, trusted it and let it go and it went down," Goins said. "As soon as I let it go, I knew it was good. I

was ready to celebrate, but I knew I had to get back on defense."

Duke had the chance to tie but Barrett missed the first of two free throws with 5.2 seconds left. Duke was helpless with only four fouls, and Winston was able to get the ball away from the Duke defenders and dribble out the clock.

"There wasn't enough time so I tried to

**'We're not done yet, and it feels good.'**

**Matt McQuaid**  
Michigan State senior guard

miss the second one and it went in," Barrett said.

Michigan State is in the Final Four for the eighth time under coach Tom Izzo, who beat Duke's Mike Krzyzewski for just the second time in 13 meetings and second time in seven NCAA Tournament games. Izzo is in the Final Four for the eighth time in his career and tied Krzyzewski what would have been a record 13th appearance.

Izzo had to navigate foul trouble to big man Xavier Tillman, who was essential in guarding Williamson and factoring in on the offensive end. Tillman played 29 minutes and scored 19 points on 8-for-12 shooting.

Duke fell one step short of the Final Four after finally coming out on the losing end of a nail-biter. The loss likely ended Williamson's college career, as the freshman sensation is expected to leave Duke for the NBA. Interest in Williamson has been so high that CBS dedicated a camera to his every move in the NCAA Tournament.

"We're very upset, obviously, but congrats to Michigan State," Williamson said. "Just looking around the locker room and see your teammates, your brothers and you just think this group will probably never play together again."

## Newcomers: Final Four a long time coming for Bennett, Beard and Pearl

## FROM BACK PAGE

Chris Beard's nomadic journey struck a vein of gold in his 12th coaching stop at Texas Tech, with a gritty pack of ball-hawking players grasping the program's first Final Four. Their opponent next Saturday in Minneapolis: Izzo's Spartans.

Virginia's Tony Bennett finally got over the hump in his 10th season with the Cavaliers, putting them in position for a different kind of history after last year's historic first-round, flameout against No. 16 UMBC.

And Auburn's Bruce Pearl found some gems at Auburn after an acrimonious split with Tennessee, guiding the Tigers to Minneapolis where they'll face Virginia despite the cloud of a federal investigation hanging over the program.

"I'm so happy for the people at Auburn who have been waiting forever to get their first Final Four," Pearl said.

Pearl was fired by Tennessee in 2011 and hit with a "show-cause" penalty by the NCAA for a string of violations and lying to investigators.

He landed at Auburn 2014 and the dark clouds followed.

Vols assistant Coach Person pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bribery and two players, Austin Wiley and Daniel Purifoy, were ruled ineligible last season as a result of the federal investigation. Just before this year's SEC tournament, assistant coach Tre Bowman was suspended indefi-



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

**Texas Tech head coach Chris Beard celebrates after his team's 75-69 victory over top-seeded Gonzaga in the NCAA West Regional final Saturday in Anaheim, Calif. Beard's Red Raiders face Tom Izzo's Michigan State Spartans on Saturday in Minneapolis.**

nately amid bribery allegations during his time at Pennsylvania.

Despite the off-court issues, The Tigers (30-9) shot their way into the Final Four for the first time by taking down blue bloods Kansas, North Carolina and Kentucky in succession.

"No matter how low we got this season, no matter how much adversity went through, we always believed this is where we could get to," said Auburn's Bryce Brown, who had 24 points in the Elite Eight win over Kentucky.

Beard was at Division II Angelo State just four years ago, the ABA's South Carolina Warriors three years before that. He took over a middling Texas Tech

program in 2016 and turned it around by getting non-five-star players to buy into his defensive philosophies.

Texas Tech reached the Elite Eight for the first time in Beard's second season a year ago, but not much was expected from the Red Raiders this season after losing five of their top six scorers.

Picked to finish seventh in the preseason poll, Texas Tech was one of college basketball's biggest surprises, sharing the Big 12 regular-season championship with Kansas State to end Kansas' 14-year reign. After a hiccup against West Virginia in the conference tournament, Texas Tech (30-6) and the nation's most efficient

defense shut down four straight NCAA Tournament opponents to reach the program's first Final Four.

"It is real. That defense is real," Gonzaga coach Mark Few said after the Red Raiders bounced the Zags from the Elite Eight.

So is Virginia's. Using the same principles his father, Dick, ran at Wisconsin and Washington State, Cavaliers coach Tony Bennett runs a "pack line" defense that forces teams to the perimeter. As the name suggests, Virginia packs its defense into the paint, clogging driving lanes, helping defenders already in place to fill the gaps in the defense.

Bennett needed a few years to cement the foundation of his defensive principles, but once he did, Virginia became one of the nation's top defenses.

The Cavaliers led the nation in scoring at 55 points per game this season and are fifth in Ken Pomeroy's defensive efficiency. Virginia (33-3) shut down its first three opponents and survived an offensive onslaught by Purdue's Carsen Edwards to earn its first Final Four since 1984.

Bounced in a historic loss a year ago, the Cavaliers finally got Bennett the one piece missing from his resume.

"There was a burning desire to get these guys and our program to a Final Four and hopefully beyond," Tony Bennett said.

Now, Izzo.

The master of March may have pulled off the greatest coaching

## Scoreboard

<b>EAST REGIONAL</b> At Washington Regional Championship Sunday, March 31 Michigan 68, Duke 67	<b>SOUTH REGIONAL</b> At Louisville, Ky. Regional Championship Saturday, March 30 Virginia 80, Purdue 75, OT
<b>MIDWEST REGIONAL</b> At Kansas City, Mo. Regional Championship Saturday, March 30 Auburn 77, Kentucky 71, OT	<b>WEST REGIONAL</b> At Anaheim, Calif. Regional Championship Saturday, March 30 Texas Tech 75, Gonzaga 69
<b>FINAL FOUR</b> At Minneapolis National Semifinals Saturday, April 6 Michigan State (32-6) vs. Texas Tech (30-6) Virginia (33-3) vs. Auburn (30-9)	<b>National Championship</b> Monday, April 8 Semifinal winners

job of his career in the Elite Eight on Sunday, pulling the strings to knock top overall seed Duke and its fantastic freshmen from the bracket.

Izzo's game plan frustrated Zion Williamson, R.J. Barrett and the rest of the Blue Devils most of the day in Washington, D.C.

With the game on the line, Izzo drew up a play to free Kenny Goins for a wide-open three-point. The guard knocked it down with 34 seconds left, the Spartans clamped down on defense and Cassius Winston broke free to dribble out the clock, practically running all the way to Minneapolis with the ball.



## SPORTS



## Leaders of the Pac

Warriors win, secure fifth straight division crown » **NBA, Page 27**

## NCAA TOURNAMENT

## Sweet emotion

Izzo's Spartans joined by trio of newcomers in Final Four

By JOHN MARSHALL  
Associated Press

**T**om Izzo drew up the perfect play at the perfect moment, sending Michigan State past mighty Duke for a spot in the Final Four.

The trip is always emotional, but Izzo has done it before. This will be his eighth Final Four and a chance for a second national championship.

The other three Final Four coaches all will be the new kids at the dance.

SEE NEWCOMERS  
ON PAGE 31

Pictured, from left: Virginia's Kyle Guy; Michigan State's Cassius Winston; Auburn's Bryce Brown; and Texas Tech's Tariq Owens.

AP PHOTOS;  
ILLUSTRATION BY  
SEAN VENABLES  
Stars and Stripes



Kisner defeats Kuchar in Match Play final » Golf, Page 25

